

The Middlebury Campus

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Off-Campus Approvals Drop

By Maggie Caputi

The off-campus housing lottery, which took place on Tuesday, Feb. 17, approved 58 rising seniors to live off campus for the 2015-16 school year. Including senior Febs who have been granted approval, the number of students permitted to live off campus next year amounts to 95—a slight decrease from this school year's 106. This past week, administrators and faculty members involved in housing have been swamped by groups of students seeking answers as to why they were not granted approval.

The results of the off-campus lottery—a random selection process—came as a surprise to many: in the past, students who have applied for off-campus approval have had seemingly little trouble with the process. Recent bed shortages last winter term suggested the College is in the midst of a housing crisis.

"In terms of practicality, it doesn't make sense to me why the numbers for off-campus have gone down," Somers Brush '16 said. "Coming back from

abroad, I was put in a double within a suite in Hepburn with three people I didn't know. This wasn't an ideal way to start off after being gone for so long, and it makes me think that Middlebury has an on-campus housing shortage. Until that shortage is addressed, it seems that having the maximum amount of off-campus students would be beneficial not only for seniors, but for all students," she concluded.

The waitlist for off-campus housing is extensive. In the days that followed the lottery, many waitlisted students approached Residential Systems Coordinator Karin Hall-Kolts searching for guidance and explanations. Hall-Kolts could explain only how the waitlist works, as general silence from Old Chapel prevented her from being able to give waitlisted students firm answers about their chances of living off campus.

Administrative silence last week contributed to an atmosphere of confusion and

SEE OFF-CAMPUS, PAGE 3

Summer Courses Open for Students

By Ethan Brady

Last week, the College announced the inauguration of its Summer Study program for this coming summer. The program was approved by faculty last year and is designed to provide students with opportunities to participate in experiential, field-based courses that would otherwise be difficult to accommodate during the regular academic year.

"The idea originated with students who were interested in summer internships for credit and who approached the Educational Affairs Committee asking for such an option," Dean of Curriculum Suzanne Gurland said.

She continued, "The committee thought that some curricular structure for the summer might be desirable, but last year the faculty voted down the possibility of credit-bearing internships. What remained was a piece of legislation allowing for the possibility of creating an academic program for the summertime."

Gurland stressed the intensity of the committee's efforts in spearheading the program. She and other administrators needed to consult with about

40 offices on campus, including Student Accessibility Services, Student Financial Services, the Office of the Registrar, and representatives for the Language Schools.

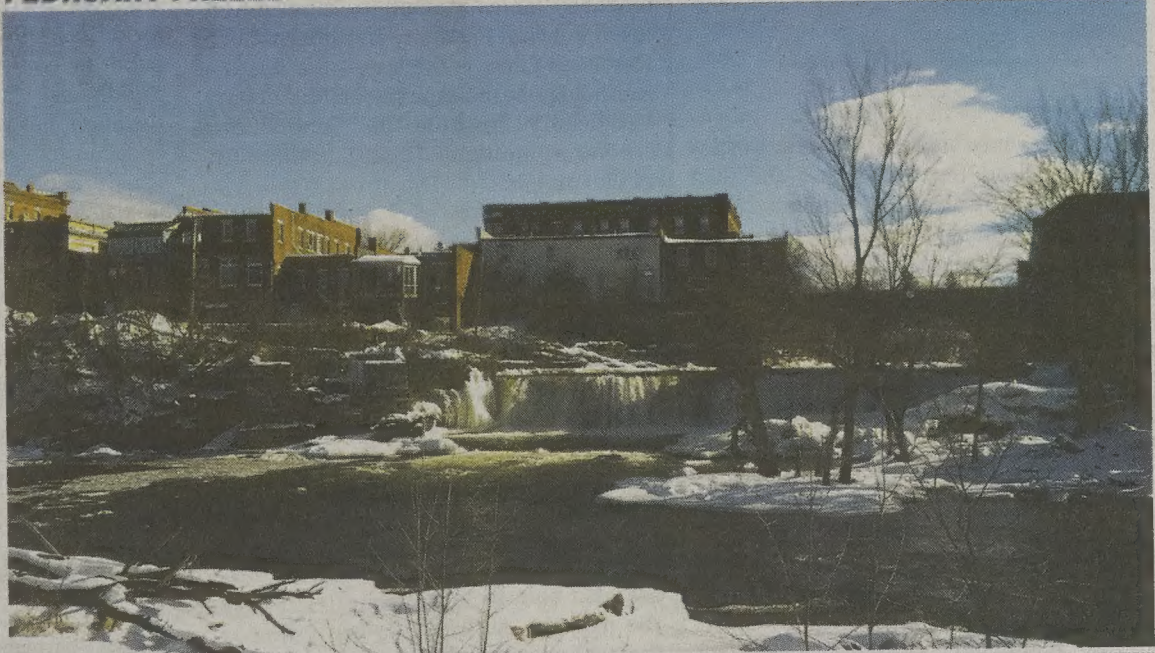
Once instructors began submitting applications for potential courses, the Curriculum Committee reviewed each proposal and determined whether the proposed course could grant credit. Administrative offices then assessed the feasibility of each course, both logistically and financially, incorporating the costs of housing and food in setting tuition fees (for which financial aid will be available).

Every summer, the College's campus is fully occupied by students and faculty participating in the Middlebury Language Schools, posing a logistical constraint on possible locations for Summer Study courses. Gurland said that this limitation forced the committee to incorporate off-campus study into the plan and helped to solidify the idea of experiential, wholesome learning as the program's main intention.

"I think a successful liberal arts education is one that gives students habits of mind that apply in virtually any situation

SEE SUMMER, PAGE 2

FEBRUARY FREEZE



KATE HAMILTON

Blue skies over Otter Creek falls belied the bone-chilling temperatures that hit campus this week.

Econ. Faculty Stretched Thin

By Caroline Agsten

Due to the deficit of available professors and the overwhelming popularity of the major, the Economics Department has been unable to accommodate many students trying to register for classes at all levels at the beginning of this spring term. While limited capacity has always been an issue for this department, the problem has increased in severity, with many accounts of students forced to sit on the floor during the first week of classes.

The severity of the issue has been attributed to a number of different reasons. Charles A. Dana Professor of Economics Peter Matthews wrote in an email, "At the risk of oversimplification, over a prolonged period, the student/faculty ratio has increased to the point where it is no longer sustainable or, for that matter, equitable."

He continued, "On the one hand, whether one counts enrolled students or majors, the numerator has increased. There are, for example, about 370 economics majors at Middlebury, more than double the number of the next largest department or program, and more than several whole academic divisions whose combined resources dwarf

ours. On the other hand, the number of 'full time equivalent' economists on campus has not kept pace and, in some cases, even fallen: we have lost colleagues to retirement and, this semester, unexpected death, but we have also 'lost' FTEs to College initiatives like Mid-CORE, MCSE and Liberal Arts Plus."

These issues have culminated in the over-enrollment by as many as twelve extra students in some classes, leaving many other students unable to access these classes.

Hayley Howard '17, an Economics major, attended both Economic Statistics classes offered this semester with the hopes of adding one. "One of my [economics] classes already had to move classrooms to make room for more students, but we still have too many," she said.

Assistant Professor of Economics Erick Gong, noted that he, too, was unable to accommodate everyone in his statistics class.

He said, "I think there is a lot of interest in economics on campus, which I attribute to many of my colleagues in the department who convey a passion for their areas of expertise."

Therein lies the challenge for

professors who want to enroll interested students but then are forced to teach a greater amount of larger classes with less one-on-one time with students.

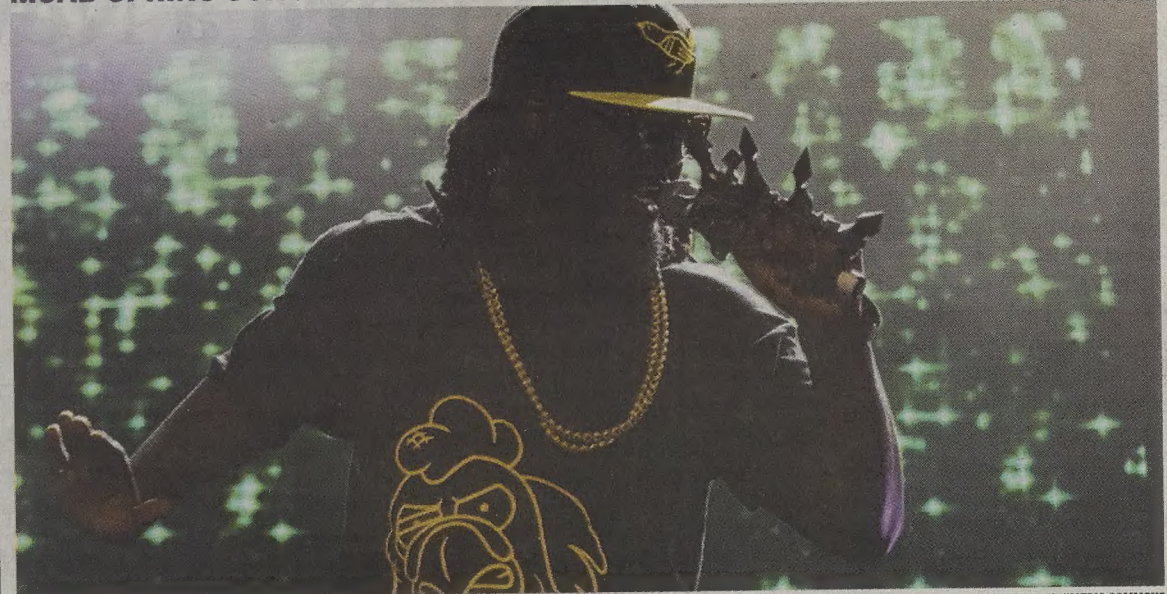
Matthews said, "In a word, it diminishes and dilutes what is otherwise one of the best available liberal arts educations in economics. I have remarkable scholar-teachers as colleagues, and we attract remarkable students, but there aren't enough of the former to engage the latter as much as either group wants or deserves. Furthermore, the consequences manifest themselves throughout the curriculum, from overcrowded first level courses to insufficient opportunities to engage in 'research-based learning' for seniors, a centerpiece of the department's pedagogical philosophy."

Paige-Wright Professor of Economics Paul Sommers pointed out that the number of negative seats available on Bannerweb underscores the magnitude of the problem that the department is facing. He has faced overcrowding in his Economic Statistics lab class, where many enrolled students were without seats.

Some short-term solutions to

SEE ECON, PAGE 3

MCAB SPRING CONCERT: T-PAIN



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

MCAB announced this week that T-Pain will headline this year's Spring Concert. The concert will be held on April 18. Tickets will go on sale March 30 at 6 p.m. for \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door.

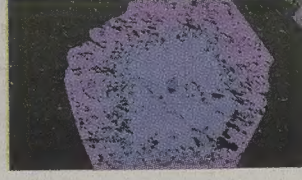
INSIDE



1 IN 8,700:
WILLIAM F.
BROOKS JR.
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MIDD DEBATE
RANKS 15TH
NATIONWIDE
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WHAT IS THIS?
FIND OUT ON
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COMMUNITY COUNCIL

By Emma Dunlap

On February 16, 2015, Cate Costley '15 and Alison Maxwell '15 of the SGA Honor Code Committee attended this week's Community Council meeting. They presented a drafted amendment to the constitution of Middlebury's Honor Code and received feedback from Community Council members.

Maxwell said, "The student body is very divided on whether or not the Honor Code is useful or applicable to our lives. Student apathy is driving this [proposition]...if we have an honor code, we want to know that students want an honor code."

Costley and Maxwell hope to pass an amendment that will incite students to think about the value of the honor code to the Middlebury community. If their proposed amendment passes, it will prompt a school-wide vote on the Honor Code that requires at least two-thirds of the student body's vote.

"This [proposal] would stimulate discussion," Costley said.

One option that was brought up proposed a complete suspension of the Honor Code's implementation for two years. This proposition prompted some negative responses from council members who felt this action could be extremely drastic and unreasonable.

Blake Shapkinsky '15 said, "I see maintaining and revising as relevant but not suspending it... that is a huge executive change. If anyone ever voted to suspend, it would cause a lot more trouble than it should."

Katherine Brown '18 said, "Suspending the honor code would greatly change all academic processes at the school... if we do suspend it, I would question whether or not this institution is the way I want it to be...or if I would I want to be here."

However, SGA President Taylor Custer '15 was in favor of putting suspension or rejection as an option.

Custer said, "Ideally, if the Honor Code is doing what it is supposed to be doing, then there is not cheating on campus... [but] surveys suggest that there is cheating on campus, so, clearly, the Honor Code is not doing something right."

He continued, "Do students actually own [the honor code]? I don't necessarily think that's true or if students really think that. Putting in this voting measure...would show how important the honor code is."

Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott said that she would be in support of an amendment that would possibly suspend the Honor Code because it would maintain a spark of "the high stakes of eradicating an Honor Code." However, she believes completely eradicating the Honor Code would present too many issues.

Costley said, "[The possibility of suspension] gives this an edge...as a community, we have been apathetic about integrity and this is to kickstart a conversation."

The second topic the council covered was Custer's proposal to extend Thanksgiving Recess to include the Monday and Tuesday of the week recess begins. To accommodate for this, Custer proposed adding two days to the beginning of the fall semester. According to Custer, 33 percent of the student body skips class on Monday and Tuesday to start Thanksgiving Recess early. Some of the members presented reasons why they thought this proposal would not be compatible with "the nature of Middlebury's compressed schedule," as noted by Smith Abbott. Additionally—according to Horticulturalist Tim Parsons—campus facilities would lose two much-needed days for preparing the campus for the fall semester.

College Launches Online Courses

By Ben Hawthorne

Middlebury College launched its first fully online class, "Years of Upheaval: Diplomacy, War & Social Change, 1919–1945," on February 13. The class, which is taught by James Jermain Professor Emeritus of Political Economy and International Law Russ Leng, is the latest in a series of technology-based courses at Middlebury, Middlebury Institute for International Studies at Monterey (MIIS), and the language schools.

The class is free of charge and is open to "alumni, parents, and friends of Middlebury." Invitations to the course were sent out to alumni and parents via email, though anyone who these invites were forwarded to (the "friends of Middlebury"), including a number of current students, are also able to take the course.

According to Leng, the decision to limit the class to these groups was done because of copyright issues. "We use a lot of copyrighted material under the 'fair use' provision that allows us to use it for educational purposes for limited audiences," Leng said in an email. "If the course were simply open to the world, as with a MOOC [Massive Open Online Course], we could have run into legal copyright issues. The copyright holders feel that they completely lose control when

their product is suddenly available to everyone in the world online."

According to Provost Susan Baldrige, who directly oversees the class and who was largely responsible for its creation, the administration initially planned to only offer the class to alumni. The decision to expand the course to parents and friends of Middlebury was made after initial trials of the class met with positive reception. The decision to open up the class to a somewhat broader but still controlled audience was also influenced by a desire to test the college's technology.

"Alumni were an obvious place to start for us," Baldrige said. "The class is a sort of online version of the alumni college, an event for alumni at Bread Loaf where alumni can come and take short versions of Middlebury classes. Alums loved that experience, but it is not always easy for alumni to come up to Vermont."

SUSAN BALDRIDGE
PROVOST

Because it is fully online, the class is largely lecture-based. However, unlike many MOOCs, the class has an integrated discussion section. In the discussion sections, Leng and alum Frank Sesno '77 will hold "informal conversations" about the class material. They will also respond to questions from the students that are submitted in an online text-based discussion forum both before and during the discussion sections.

One aspect of the class that makes it

unique from more traditional classes at Middlebury is the heavy and seamless integration of numerous types of media, ranging from news clips and battle footage to films and poetry. The diverse nature of course materials has led Leng to say that the class "has enabled me to be a true liberal arts professor."

"You can begin to deliver content, in a really engaging way by using this kind of original, embedded footage," Director of Assessment Adela Langrock, the project manager and quality evaluator for the class, said. "For example, when Professor Leng is talking about Churchill [and a speech he delivered], and then we can cut right into watching that speech in the House of Commons. And then Professor Leng comes back and explains how it was received and then we can cut to news clips of talking to reporters outside the House."

Another difference between this class and similar classes at the College is the lack of required reading. According to Langrock, this is done to accommodate the students, most of whom are professionals, graduate students, and parents who do not have time to do intensive reading. However, the class includes suggested readings.

"A lot of people, when they get older, start reading certain types of things, they pick up the mysteries and put away the scholarly work," Langrock said. "The suggested readings may not be the most scholarly work, but they're well written and good, and students are actually seeking out these resources and reading them."

The course is an experiment for the

SEE ONLINE, PAGE 3

"The class is a sort of online version of the alumni college, an event for alumni at Bread Loaf where alumni can come and take short versions of Middlebury classes."

Summer Study Program Upcoming

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they might encounter," Gurland said.

She added, "The thing I love about experiential learning is that it puts students in some novel situation—say, a new country or culture—where they can demonstrate to themselves that those habits of mind and critical thinking skills can serve them in all kinds of arenas."

Professor of Computer Science and Head of Cook Commons Matthew Dickerson will be teaching a summer course in Anchorage, Alaska, called "Essay Writing on Nature." Dickerson, a scholar on the works of J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis and an avid fly fisherman and beekeeper, has been interested in nature-writing for many years.

Dickerson said, "In Alaska, the wilderness happens at a much grander

scale. So a big part of the course will be observations. After a guest presentation from a fisheries biologist or a reading about some environmental issue, we might then take a six mile hike into some remote watershed and experience firsthand what it looks like—observing, writing about, and discussing what we are learning. There will be a lot of hours of class each day."

Gurland hopes prospective students do not view the Summer Study program as a vacation or an academically light experience.

She said, "There is a substantial academic component, these are rigorous courses. I really think that it's experiential learning and that the 'learning' part is right there, front and center."

Summer Study courses are required to

meet for a minimum of four weeks with 32 hours of instruction. A maximum of two Summer Study credits are permitted to count toward the College's 36-credit graduation requirement. Additionally, students may only count a maximum of four credits from Winter Term and Summer Study courses combined. Summer Study courses can fulfill distribution requirements as determined by the Curriculum Committee.

Gurland stated that the inaugural run of the Summer Study program will be somewhat experimental.

She said, "We'll probably learn things from this experience that will help us figure out where the program is going to go in the future. There's a lot of thinking going on about what we want Summer Study to be, but at the same time it's going to show us what it can become."

Munford a New Interest House

By Maggie Caputi

As of the start of the 2014-2015 school year, Munford has become an Intentional Living interest house.

Over the past few years, students have consistently applied to live in Munford as an intentional living Superblock. The sustained commitment to this theme in Munford caused the College to transition the space into a permanent interest house. Students can apply as individuals rather than coordinate 31 person rosters for each semester, as the Superblock process necessitates.

According to Meagan Neal '15, one of Munford's two student coordinators, the Intentional Living House began as a Superblock, "modeled after the idea of intentional living communities that are found worldwide." Neal notes that all residents contribute "their own interpretation of [intentional living], which is partly why the space has worked so well."

On a bustling campus where schoolwork and other pressures abound,

the idea of a safe space that promotes, "reflection and intentionality in everyday life" resonates with many individuals, Neal said.

Residents of the house share many interests, goals, and values; namely, they "strive to live intentionally in a diverse, mindful, and inclusive community," according to the Intentional Living

"So much real learning happens when you slow down, engage in deep conversation, and ground yourself in the present moment"

MEAGAN NEAL '15

House website. "So much real learning happens when you slow down, engage in deep conversation, and ground yourself in the present moment," Neal said.

The Intentional Living House has

hosted community events such as talks, workshops, poetry night, breakfast for the custodial staff, and parties. However, the house's values manifest themselves not only through these events, but also through the daily interactions that take place between members of the house community; Neal cites "all the countless times I've walked into the common room to find people sprawled on our couches talking and laughing" as her favorite moments as a resident of Munford.

Although second semester has only just begun, deadlines for fall term housing opportunities are quickly approaching. Some deadlines, including those for Superblock applications, have passed. Superblocks are a popular housing options for rising juniors and seniors who hope to live among other students with shared interests. The residential spaces often vary: this year, the possible locations include Homestead House, Meeker House, Palmer House, and the five Mods (Cousteau, Earhart, Norgay, Peary, and Ride).

Econ. Faces Shortage of Professors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the issue of overcrowding in these classes include switching classrooms, opening new sections, reshuffling professors, and increasing enrollment caps. Matthews also noted that a greater flexibility has been given toward transferring credit as another way to ameliorate some of the problems the department is facing. However, these tactics work more as quick fixes rather than sustainable long-term solutions that address structural issues within the department itself.

The Economics Department has consequently hired three new faculty members and extended an offer to a fourth as a potentially more durable response to the high demand of economics classes.

Sommers said, "We are actively working to increase the number of faculty in economics so that our majors can actually enroll in core courses and that classes can be smaller."

Matthews commented on the department's recent growth and its future. "The last two years brought us the remarkable quartet of Professors Racha Moussa, Tanya Byker, Leila Davis and Emiliano Huet-Vaughn," he said. "Next fall, we shall add Professor Amanda Gregg from Yale, an economic historian with a focus on late imperial Russia, Professor Julia Berazneva from Cornell, who works at the intersection of environment and development economics, and Professor Marquise McGraw of Berkeley, who researches local economic development and will allow us to expand our urban studies curriculum. I am certain that students will love learning from, and working with, all of them. And we're not done."

Fewer Approved for Off-Campus Living

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

frustration, which has naturally given rise to many questions and theories regarding the situation. Earlier this year, Middlebury community members vocalized frustration about student partying off campus.

"This is the first year, in all the time that I've been here doing the work that I do, where we've had real issues with our neighbors, our neighbors who are close to campus," said Special Assistant to the President Dave Donahue.

As the surprising outcomes of the lottery arrive in the wake of the town's exasperation, many students speculate that the College is decreasing the number of students allowed off campus in an effort to mend a potentially damaged town-gown relationship.

Frustration abounds not just among students; the landlord of an off-campus house has expressed his concerns with the situation. One group of students who put deposits to rent his house in the fall of this year now faces a difficult challenge; some in the group were not approved to live off campus while others were granted permission. In an email to Hall-Kolts and Interim Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott, this landlord, who has been a Middlebury town resident for 35 years, wrote to the administration pleading with them to reconsider.

He wrote, "How is it fair to 'punish' these students by changing the rules at this late date and based upon the problems of last fall when they weren't even part of the problem? I'm talking of course about the students who committed to live at 325 and 341 Weybridge St. Each of these students was excited about

their housing choice for their senior year. They had far more foresight and organizational acuity than most of their peers (at the beginning of their junior year agreeing on leases for their senior year) and each received outstanding references."

This landlord's email suggests that the decision to decrease the number of students living off campus is a result of the town-gown issues that ensued this past fall after a number of off-campus parties left many local residents angry.

"A logical response to the issues that we've had this fall would be to bring some students back on campus," Donahue said. "In terms of town-gown relations, we've done more work this year trying to address the concerns of neighbors than we've done at any time that I can recall."

However, while the decrease in off-campus spots may seem like a response to neighbors' concerns, it is in fact an administrative attempt to simply lower the maximum number of students awarded off-campus spots, and this administrative movement "stands alone, separate from the issues we've had," according to Donahue.

Associate Dean of Students Doug Adams further clarified the decision.

He said, "I think that there's a perception that there was a drastic reduction in the number of students that were approved to live off campus. The reality is that the number was reduced by about ten for our lottery process. In the past, we've normally done about 95 students during the lottery process to approve to live off campus."

The number of students allowed to live off campus is adjusted annually, depending on enrollment and campus

housing needs. As a residential college, Middlebury assumes that most students will live on campus, and housing policy prioritizes filling as many beds on campus as possible. This year, the number of students allowed off-campus was reduced only slightly, but because over 100 people applied to live off-campus, the slight reduction seems much more dramatic to waitlisted students.

The approval numbers are further complicated by the number of senior Febs who are currently living off campus and who have chosen to stay off campus, as those Febs are accounted for in the number of students allowed to live off campus.

"This year, that was a much higher number than we've seen before: about 27 students. So we subtract that from the total number of students that we were expecting to take off campus, and we always do," Adams said.

Ultimately, this year's housing lottery has been complicated by a few factors with which most students were not familiar.

Adams continued, "We have a confluence of two things: we have a smaller number of slots that we can make available because we've had a larger number of students transferring through, and we slightly reduced the number of students that were in the mix by reducing the total number that we were shooting for by about ten."

Despite what students may assume, the College has not chosen to change policies this year. Administrators are simply making housing adjustments that are standard procedure.

COLLEGE STARTS FREE ONLINE CLASS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

College in providing online classes. As Baldrige put it, "part of this is to experiment with these [online learning] technologies and to see how well they will do in the future." According to Baldrige, the course is one of the first steps in a broader "digital liberal arts initiative" so that any professor who wants to teach an online course or have Middlebury students collaborate with MIIS, Bread Loaf, or language school students will be able to do so.

The experimental nature of the class also contributed to the decision to limit the enrollment in the class. The class' high current enrollment, over 1000 students, has already caused multiple crashes, according to Langrock and Baldrige.

The college is devoting considerable resources towards overcoming these issues and has made significant improvements since Fall 2014 (when his "Policy Analysis" course was offered), including purchasing equipment and dedicating bandwidth at the college to online classes, according to Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science Orion Lewis. However, he notes that some of the technical problems are insurmountable not because of a lack of resources or commitment but because of the "the fragmented and siloed institutional structure that is the historical legacy of two separate institutions, Middlebury and MIIS."

The initiative for Leng's class and other partially online classes has largely come from the administration, not from professors. According to Baldrige, the class was proposed by the administration and Leng offered to teach it and developed the curriculum over the past year and through a 2015 J-term course on a similar topic. The initiative for Lewis' "Policy Analysis" course came from the administration, and while he had more of a role in proposing the Insurgency and Security Policy course, he noted that the hybrid nature of the class stems from the fact that his contract of employment with Middlebury stipulates that he has to teach one hybrid class per year.

Other partially online courses include Policy Analysis, which four Middlebury students took via videoconference and were supervised by Lewis; a current course, Insurgency and Security Policy, taught at Middlebury by Lewis with several MIIS students participating via videoconference and other technologies; and an accelerated hybrid masters program in teaching Hebrew, titled The Institute for the Advancement of Hebrew, taught at the language school during the summer and online during the rest of the year.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Free Friday Film

Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1
FRIDAY AT 6 & 9 P.M.



Zumba

Come dance the calories away at
McCullough Social Space.
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.

Lecture by Mark Kimball

Come to Dana Auditorium to listen to a
lecture presented by the College Organic
Garden
TONIGHT AT 4:30 P.M.

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Vt. Considers Gun Regulations with Bill 31

By Bilal Ansar Khan

Hundreds of Vermonters recently debated a new bill on gun control. The bill hopes to expand background checks and bar people considered mentally ill from carrying a weapon alongside imposing other restrictions on gun ownership.

The Senate Bill 31 was met with much opposition as the largest crowd descended on the State House since the Vermont Civil Union Bill - which granted the full benefits of marriage to same-sex couples - was debated and passed 15 years ago. The 43 people who signed up to speak in favor of the bill were outnumbered by the 65 who spoke against it.

Critics of the bill were concerned that the new legislation was against the spirit of the Vermont Constitution and the Sportsmen Bill of Rights. Many feared it was the first step on a slippery slope which would eventually lead to gun confiscation.

Bill Moore of Vermont Traditions Coalition emphasized that "we don't need them in the safest state in the nation."

FBI figures show that with only 115 violent crimes per 100,000 - a third of the national average - Vermont was indeed the safest state in 2013.

The Gun Owners of Vermont issued a statement in which it expressed concerns over possible inclusion of Veter-

ans who have returned home from Desert Storm and sought counselling at the Veteran's Administration among people who might be prohibited from accessing a gun in case the bill passes and is made into a law.

Ann Braden, President of the anti-gun group Gun Sense Vermont, was adamant that the legislation would not impede on the Second Amendment rights of Vermonters. She had announced in May of last year that the group would focus on the issue of introducing universal background checks for firearms sold in the state.

"It's focused exclusively on keeping guns out of the hands of convicted abusers, violent felons, and drug traffickers," Braden said.

The Green Mountain state, which prides itself on being the most liberal state in the country, is also among the most protective of its right to

bear arms. It is one of only three states which allow anyone to carry concealed weapons without a permit. It also has a firearms preemption law that prevents cities or counties from enforcing gun laws that are more restrictive than state law.

The shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in 2012 renewed debate over gun control laws in Vermont but

"The current laws that Vermont has in place around guns serve us well."

PETER SHUMLIN
GOVERNOR OF VERMONT



COURTESY OF TERRI HALLENBECK, SEVENMYSVT

Derek Bailey of Jericho spoke to Senate committee members on Tuesday night.

in spite of repeated attempts by many in the House of Representatives, such as former Rep. Linda Waite-Simpson of Essex, to introduce gun-control laws the bills have failed to garner enough votes and often have not even made it to the House Floor.

Gov. Peter Shumlin attributes Vermonters' passion for guns to "years and years of Vermonters respecting guns as a tool to manage wildlife and to put food on the table." Gov. Shumlin is among the

most prominent pro-gun voices in the state, as he himself was raised in a hunting family.

"The current laws that Vermont has in place around guns serve us well," Shumlin said in a news conference held at the end of last month. He wanted the Legislature to focus on affordability, property taxes and health care costs instead of debating issues that "divide us," the Burlington Free Press reported.

Vermont Department of Taxes Withholds Refunds in Response to Rise in Tax Fraud

By Malkie Wall

The Vermont Department of Taxes has resumed issuing tax refund checks, after halting the process for almost a week because of fears of refund fraud in other states.

Refund fraud occurs when thieves use stolen identities, including Social Security numbers, to file phony tax claims. It may result in fines and imprisonment.

In 2014 alone, the Vermont Department of Taxes uncovered more than 800 fraudulent returns. This discovery prevented over \$1.5 million in losses to the state. The Department has responded by expanding its fraud detection efforts for 2015.

"Our focus is to lessen the impact of identity theft on Vermonters," said Mary Peterson, the state tax commissioner, in a news release.

"We are working to ensure Vermont tax dollars go to the rightful recipients and stay out of the hands of criminals. In addition to increasing the number of safeguards to our systems, we are in regular contact with software vendors, revenue departments in other states and the IRS to share information, such as new ways criminals have developed to commit fraud," Peterson said.

Tax refund fraud is a growing problem in Vermont and nationwide. Multiple other states around the country,

including Minnesota, Utah, and Georgia, have reported increases in the number of fraudulent requests. Some states are taking preventative steps.

Additionally, TurboTax temporarily stopped electronic filing for state returns after several fraud attempts were spotted.

Some have attributed the recent spike in tax refund fraud nationwide to large-scale data breaches outside the tax world, which have made consumer information readily available to online criminals.

In a news release on Thursday, the Department stressed that the "increase in refund fraud is not related to any security breach of Vermont government systems but rather the use of identities stolen elsewhere."

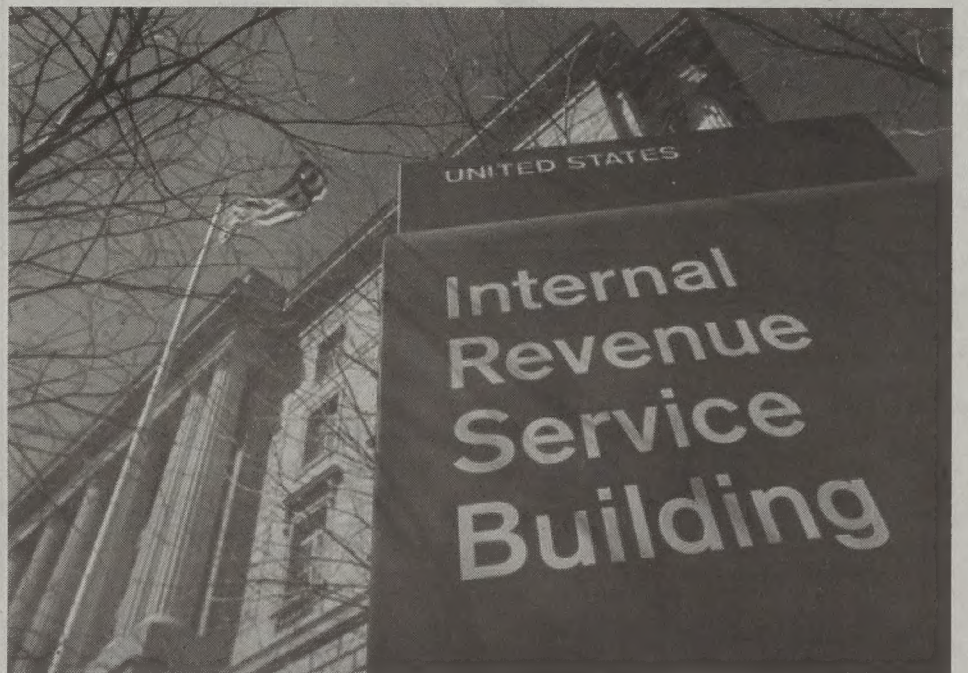
Often identity thieves utilize special software that allows them to use the same identity to produce tax returns in several states. Fraudulent filers typically request direct deposit of refunds to debit cards.

One approach the Department is taking is to issue paper checks for certain refund claims. Since claims filed by fraudulent identities are often linked to first time returns, the Tax Department is also issuing paper checks to all first time filers.

Some Vermonters may notice that

"We are working to ensure Vermont tax dollars go to the rightful recipients and stay out of the hands of criminals."

MARY PETERSON
VT. STATE TAX COMMISSIONER



COURTESY OF AIA.ORG

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service is responsible for tax collection and law.

their refunds are slower to arrive this year. While a lot of the screening is done electronically, reviews are conducted manually.

Although the department has increased the number of staff working on fraud detection, the department acknowledges that additional screening will likely delay refunds throughout the tax season.

Taxpayers who have not filed their taxes but receive a refund by paper check should report it to the Department as soon as possible, as it suggests that someone has made a fraudulent tax claim in your name.

The best way to protect against tax fraud is to file a legitimate return. Fraud-

ulent filers will try to file a return in your name before you do, so the department advises taxpayers to file as early as possible to beat potential fraudulent claims. Peterson also encourages e-filing, which is quicker and more accurate than filing for a paper return.

Peterson said that it is important for people to be vigilant and to educate themselves about the many scams criminals use to steal personal information. For anyone worried that they may be a victim of identity theft, the department had this advice:

Identity theft is a common problem, often committed through the sharing of personal and banking information over the Internet.

ONE IN 8,700

Where the personalites of Middlebury proper are celebrated

By Annie Grayer

William F. Brooks, Jr., the Executive Director of the Henry Sheldon Museum, radiates passion for his work. Since he was appointed in 2012, Brooks has worked extensively to foster a cohesive relationship between the town and the museum.

Recognized as the oldest community-based museum in the country, the Henry Sheldon Museum proudly situates itself between the present and the past. The museum is housed in the Judd-Harris house, a historic residence built in 1829. The museum holds the Stewart-Swift research center, a premier archival collection of over 100,000 works from Addison County and broader Vermont; it also houses the Walter Cerf Gallery, a space for hosting frequent exhibits and onsite and outreach education programs.

Brooks' path to his position as executive director was anything but conventional. For the first part of his professional career, Brooks was a banker in Washington D.C. and the eastern shore of Maryland. Throughout his banking career, Brooks watched as the bank grew from one office in the state of Maryland to 34 offices spreading from Delaware, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., and Virginia.

However, after 25 years in this line of work, Brooks decided to make a change. He discussed what sparked his initial interest to change career paths. "I started collecting shore birds and duck decoys on the eastern shore of Maryland," Brooks explained, "and then my interest sort of grew from there."

Brooks admitted that his decision to end his banking career was a progressive one. Brooks said, "it was a gradual realization, no specific date or revelation prompted my decision, but a combination of passion for the arts, financial stability, and family events."

Despite his overall conviction to make the career change, Mr. Brooks did admit that leaving the banking world did not come without drawbacks. "The most difficult part was leaving friends, co-workers and a community where I had resided for 25 years."

When asked about what advice he could offer others who are interested in making a career change, Mr. Brooks answered, "if you feel passionate about a new calling, go for it! I was 50 years old when I made the transition, which was made easier because I had enjoyed success as a banker and was financially secure."

"Related to the transition," Mr. Brooks continued, "were the recent deaths of my parents which seemed to have freed my siblings and me to seek new careers."

Deciding to follow his passion, Brooks earned a master's degree in American Folk Art Studies from New York University, a program co-sponsored by the Museum of American Folk Art. Brooks wrote two major research papers on Italian-American sculptors during his time as a graduate student and even travelled to meet the families of the artists he had studied.

"It was exciting to go back to the roots of the artists, meet the members of their family and receive such great hospitality," Brooks said.

"It was incredible," Brooks contin-

ued, "because I was not only able to appreciate the carvings of the artist, but also where they came from." From that moment on, Brooks was hooked.

He lights up when talking about folk art and outsider art, a style of art that is made by self-taught artists who have a passion for creating art. When separating

Meet William F. Brooks, Jr.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HENRY SHELDON MUSEUM

art from common objects, he explained, "the aesthetics comes into play. Is it beautiful? Does it measure up to some standard of craftsmanship?"

Although Brooks was overcome with optimism, he acknowledged that launching his career in folk art was not easy.

"I was 50 years old and I found out that there weren't too many jobs for someone who had no experience, but had a masters in folk art studies," Brooks said.

Despite an initial lack of experience, Brooks was able to enter the field and work his way up. From 1997 to 2002, Brooks served as the Executive Director of Frog Hollow, the Vermont State Craft Centers, overseeing craft galleries and education centers located in Manchester, Burlington, and Middlebury. From there, Brooks became the Development Director of the Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation of Plymouth Notch.

Brooks described his return to Middlebury for his appointment as Executive Director as "a second homecoming." His maternal grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. Jacob Johnson Ross, both graduated from the University of Vermont and later settled in Middlebury where his mother was born. Dr. Ross opened up a medical practice in town, and Mrs. Ross taught math at Middlebury Union High School. Brooks also spent his summers on Lake Champlain.

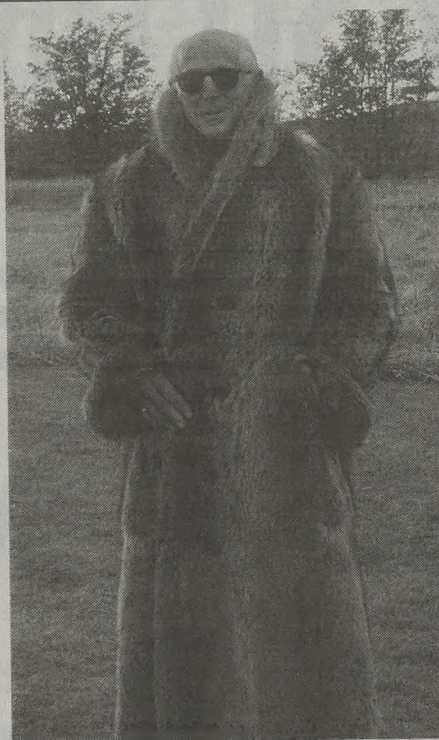
His family owned the Kitchel House, which became the College's first women's dormitory, and now serves as the home of College Communications. Brooks disclosed that within the archives of the museum, there are letters from his grandfather to his grandmother when his grandfather served as a flight surgeon in World War I.

Brooks recognized that with his change of career, his relationship to money has been altered, in that he transitioned from managing money in the banking world, to raising money in the non-profit world.

"The difference between running a bank and running a non-profit," Brooks said, "is that even though they are both people driven, when you're working for a non-profit it is much more collaborative, whereas if you're an executive at a bank you can make decisions much more quickly and not necessarily worry about the collaborative aspect."

"The hardest part of a non-profit," Mr. Brooks continued, "is to have events, whether it is a raffle, or special projects, that are income producing. Supposedly there are more non-profits per capita in Vermont than in any other state, but this community is very philanthropic and we are blessed because Middlebury alumni are very generous."

"I learned what a wonderful staff there is here, which is very small and dedicated, and what a wonderful community we live in. I love being involved with the exhibits, and having researchers come here and find items in our archives that help them with their work," commented Brooks on his experience so far as Execu-



COURTESY OF WILLIAM F. BROOKS

William F. Brooks poses in a fur coat.

tive Director.

In addition, Brooks acknowledged the pivotal role the Henry Sheldon Museum plays in connecting various members of the community. As a historical society, members of the local community and College faculty take advantage of the archives for both genealogical and academic research. As an educational center, the museum offers internships for students at the College, and outreach programs for children in the community.

Due to his multi-faceted interactions with the community, Brooks is in a unique position to comment on the way the College has interacted with the town.

"I've always admired the College, especially Ron Liebowitz, and his predecessor John McCardell because to me they have a great partnership and they think about the town. I mean they pay taxes even though they don't have to, they've contributed to the town hall theater when that was built, they've contributed with the new town hall, and this decision to move it, which was quite controversial," Brooks said.

"I'm always very impressed," Brooks continued, "and grateful that the College is here. There has been some criticism on areas that I'm not that familiar with, but my overall impression is that this place wouldn't be what it is without the College. It's wonderful from our point of view to have students here working, to have faculty and faculty spouses on our Board of Trustees, and to have them as members. To me it's a great partnership, and I'm so glad they are here."

As well as his role as Executive Director of the Henry Sheldon Museum, Brooks is active in other aspects of the community. He previously served as President of the Addison County Economic Development Corporation, was a board member of GRACE [Grass Roots and Community Effort], and was a member of the Vermont Human Resources Board. He currently serves on the Board of the Middlebury College Museum of Art.

Given his background in the town's economic development, Mr. Brooks expressed his concerns for the future ethos of small businesses in Middlebury. "Hopefully downtown will maintain itself with sole ownerships, and unique character. We just have to keep locals shopping here, instead of going elsewhere," Brooks said.

For now, Brooks remains fully invested in his work. Sitting peacefully in the Judd-Harris house, Brooks admitted, "This winter has gotten me down a little. But on a beautiful day like today, the sun is shining."

LOCAL LOWDOWN 26

Weybridge Book Sale

Are you bored of re-reading all of your old books? Don't worry - Weybridge Elementary School is having their annual two day book fair in the school common room. This is the fair for you if you enjoy fiction and nonfiction. Feel free to also donate "gently used" books. For more information call (802)-545-2113 or email mfdouglas@gmavt.net.

FEB. 26, 8:30AM - 6:00 PM

Cheers to Ceramics Education

Raise your (ceramic) cup this Friday at the pottery education celebration at Edgewater Gallery and the Middlebury Studio School as they celebrate 40 years of pottery and arts education. The celebration includes exhibition and sales of ceramic cups from past and present artists involved with the gallery and school. Two ceramic rabbit sculptors and "Falls," an oil painting, will be up for raffle. Proceeds benefit MSS's move to Route 7 in March.

FEB. 27, 5-7 PM

Almost as Good as the Beach...

Has the cold gotten to you? Are you yearning for the warm summer days, sitting by the beach on Cape Cod, eating fish and chips? Here's (almost) your wish come true! Come to the 16th annual all-you-can-eat Lenten fish fry at the St. Ambrose Parish in Bristol. The meal includes fried or baked haddock, French fries, coleslaw, a beverage, and dessert. If you are still hankering for summer cheer, contact Nick Orr '15 for Youtube surfing video recommendations. Adults \$12, children under 11 \$5, and immediate family five \$35. For more info, call (802) 453 - 2488

FEB. 27, 5-7 PM

Reed, Rosin and Pedal Concert

The band Reed, Rosin, and Pedal are coming to Brandon for a live musical performance. Come see Wesley Christensen on clarinet (the reed), Laura Markowitz on violin (the rosin), and Melody Puller on piano (the pedal). The show promises to be enjoyable to all classical music lovers. Tickets \$15. Reservations recommended. (802) 247 - 4295 or info@brandon-music.net

FEB. 28, 7:30 PM

Prenatal Yoga

Part of a five week series at Otter Creek Yoga, this activity helps you to relieve tension in preparation to birth. Good for all stages of pregnancy! Maybe even for non-pregnant members who wish to check it out. \$65 for all five classes. For more information email whelwig@gmail.com

MAR. 1, 11AM TO 12:15PM

The Middlebury Campus
IS ALSO ON THE RADIO

**T H E
C A M P U S
V O I C E**

EACH WEEK, STUDENTS, STAFF, FACULTY AND MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION DO THINGS TO SHAKE THINGS UP. DURING THIS WEEKLY PROGRAM, YOUR HOSTS JESSICA AND MICHELLE WILL CHAT WITH THEM ABOUT WHY. THE CAMPUS WILL INVITE QUESTIONS FROM READERS TO BE ASKED ON AIR DURING THE RADIO SHOW, ESTABLISHING A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TWO OF THE COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT NEWS ORGANIZATIONS, THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS AND WRMC. WE HOLD THE MIC UP TO ADMINISTRATORS, PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS—THE BAND OF VOICES THAT BRING MULTIPLE SIDES TO ONE STORY.

ALTERNATING MONDAYS, 4 TO 5 P.M.

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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Admissions Transparency: Pros and Cons

After an article in the *Campus* last week revealed that students could view their admissions files under the Federal

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the College Admissions Office has been flooded with student requests to view their files. On Wednesday, the first students to request access had their wishes

granted. As is often the case with wishes, however, we may be getting ourselves

into more than we realize.

The files students are requesting to view are, by nature, blunt and impersonal. For the sake of efficiency and candor, admissions officers will likely write concise and unfiltered commentary on students' ability to thrive at the College. These files will include a numerical rating of students' strength in academics, extra-curriculars and personal quality. Comments may include notes about sensitive personal issues like racial or geographic diversity, athletics or other identifiers.

Understandably, students may feel tokenized by these comments. It is important to note, though, that admissions documents are seen only by admissions officers and that such notes simply reflect the Admissions Office's goal to construct a diverse student body. This editorial board has promoted policies for increased diversity in the past, and these docu-

ments are what those policies look like in action.

The Admissions Office faces many concerns as they process these requests, foremost among them the possibility that students could sue the College over the contents of their files. The College has an interest in protecting itself and its processes from lawsuits, and could take steps to encode notes on admissions documents in such a way as to be indecipherable to students.

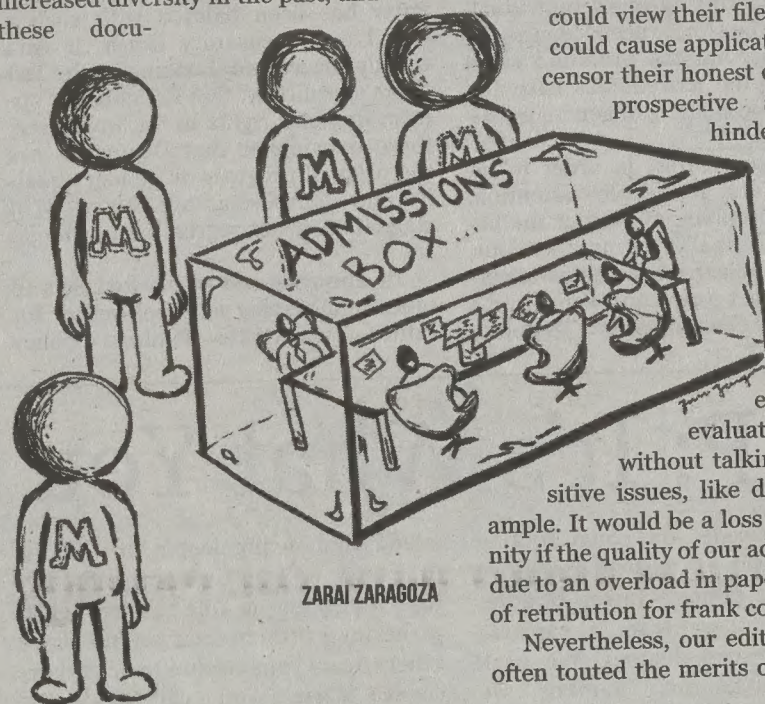
Additionally, we realize that the time and resources required to address these requests may take away from the primary purpose of the Admissions Office – to bring in qualified new students. This could occur in two ways. First, as less time is devoted to reviewing applications, the quality of evaluation might decrease and with that the quality of student admitted; second, knowing that students could view their files in the future could cause application readers to censor their honest dialogue about prospective students and hinder the review process. At the *Campus*, we view candid dialogue as essential for the Admissions team. It allows readers to honestly evaluate students without talking around sensitive issues, like diversity for example. It would be a loss to our community if the quality of our admits decreased due to an overload in paperwork or a fear of retribution for frank comments. Nevertheless, our editorial board has often touted the merits of greater trans-

parency throughout the College's offices, and we stand by that opinion. As always, transparency is a step toward a more open and honest campus environment. In this case, however, the *Campus* advises students and the Admissions Office to keep in mind the potential repercussions of sudden transparency in this traditionally opaque process.

So long as students are able to view their admissions documents, we hope that the Admissions Office will be willing to maintain this positive trend of transparency by explaining any encoding in these files. We are pleased with the Admissions Office's quick response to student requests thus far and hope its willingness to comply to the letter of the law is pursuant to the spirit of the law. It is not enough to just look at the files; in order to be given true access, the Admissions Office should assist students in whatever ways necessary for them to fully comprehend the contents of their files. We acknowledge the difficulties related to time, resources and the sensitivity of the information contained; still, we hope that the Admissions Office will not only comply to FERPA, but be helpful as well.

If both students and admissions officers are respectful and thoughtful throughout the process of reviewing admissions documents, this can be an opportunity for improved relations between students and a singularly insular administrative office on campus.

When discussing the pros and cons of allowing students to access these files, our editorial board was divided on many facets of the debate. Therefore, our two *Notes from the Desks* in this week's edition are where several editors offer their take on the issue of Admissions files.



ZARAI ZARAGOZA

The Middlebury Campus

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The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The *Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. The *Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The *Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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Black History Matters Today

Happy Black History Month! As part of the United States Bicentennial in 1976, the U.S. government recognized Black History Month,

THURSDAY PAGE
Josh Claxton '17 is from Summit, N.J.

which was formerly unacknowledged throughout most of the country. President Gerald Ford's announcement was intended to urge all citizens to honor the achievements of blacks in America.

I begin with this exclamation to emphasize that February has significance beyond romance and a much appreciated long weekend – thank you, George Washington. February is also a time to especially recognize the accomplishments of African-Americans throughout history. This is an obvious statement, but right now Black History Month requires special emphasis. Given the condition of our country, this national commemoration needs to be taken up with renewed vigor. America is currently facing ethnic polarization that requires serious attention. Celebrating black history is not the solution to America's racial strata, but perhaps it can mitigate some of the tension.

As we know, Black History Month lives on today; however, it exists subconsciously. This is somewhat understandable because to "honor" can be a vague term. How exactly are people supposed to demonstrate their acknowledgement of black accomplishments? Should every American memorize the names of black inventors during February? Well not quite, but public forums (especially on college campuses) about what it means and has meant to be black in America would be

appropriate. Marches in town or even public recitations of speeches from the Civil Rights movement would also be effective ways to honor black history.

This kind of active commemoration would benefit America as a whole, and hopefully help the American mind become more aware of the current racial dichotomy. Understanding the past allows one to better assess the present and anticipate the future. Thus, by consciously recognizing black history and understanding the achievements of black men and women, perhaps we can more adeptly address race issues.

Racial tension in America today is not too different from that which segregation perpetuated 50 years ago. The situation is not as conspicuous, but ethnic stratification does exist in this country. Most of those in the top strata are white, and the lower strata are dominated by nonwhite groups. White privilege is

still present and impoverished black communities throughout America are underserved. There is systematic racism, which has its origins in slavery and later manifested itself through "white flight" that unfairly favors white citizens. Slavery put African-Americans at a disadvantage because blacks were forced into the lowest class of society. Then instituted segregation and its underlying forms, like white flight, furthered the inequality of conditions. Blacks were stuck in communities with worse housing, job opportunities, education and resources. Moreover,

we have yet to attain the ideals propagated and sought after by Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X. For this reason, Black History Month has more significance in American life now than ever before. We need to look to our country's history and recognize that the great intellectuals and achievers would be slightly underwhelmed by the insubstantial progress that has been made.

In the past year specifically, a much larger percentage of black men have been incarcerated, frisked and shot at. That is not because black men are inherently criminals; it is quite clearly not nature. A systematic flaw is latent and it must be confronted to put an end to the kind of headlines that dominated the later part of 2014. Events that occurred in Ferguson, Staten Island and Cleveland, whether a product of racial profiling or not, highlight an unjustifiable trend in America. Addressing these issues will take more than public policy and definitely more than Black History Month. However, the racial tension we see today is the reason why black history must be taken more seriously. If you do not understand your past, you are bound to repeat it.

I look forward to the day that we do not need a designated month to especially appreciate the contributions of black men and women. This being said, that time has not come yet and this celebration in February is very much necessary. It is necessary for blacks, whites and all Americans to honor and acknowledge the achievements of African-Americans throughout history.

CORRECTION

Because of an editorial error, the article "SGA Asked, You Replied," published on Feb. 19 in the Features section contained incorrect data. The percentage of Middlebury students who do support divestment from fossil fuels should have read, "15% don't support divestment and 30% have no opinion" instead of "50% of students are not for divestment or have no opinion." *The Campus* regrets this error.

Stand Up for Feminism

SWING VOTE

Erin Van Gessel '17.5 is from San Rafael, Calif.

I recently participated in Midd Uncensored. For those who don't remember this event, it is basically an intense get-to-know-you activity. The most notable exercise is a "stand up, sit down" game. In it, a facilitator reads prompts and asks the audience to stand up if they identify with the statements. The prompts vary in terms of how personal they are. Some of them could pass as small-talk questions, like the prompt: "I was born in the United States." Others, such as, "I feel strongly connected to the LGBTQ community" aren't exactly questions you would casually drop at a dinner party. The prompt that stuck with me most, however — or rather, the audience's reaction to it — was: "I am a feminist."

When the facilitator read that sentence into the microphone, I'd estimate that about three quarters of the room stood up. While this is good because it means that there wasn't a 50/50 split where only girls identified as feminists, the division is still worrisome.

Too many people don't know what it means to be a feminist. And furthermore, too many people get nitpicky about that definition and in so doing disintegrate the cause.

So, let's clarify. According to my computer's convenient Apple dictionary, feminism is: "the advocacy of women's rights on the grounds of political, social and economic equality to men." Put simply, feminism is gender

equality. Thus, I wonder why every single person at Midd Uncensored didn't stand up, especially all the women in the room.

I looked into this. A Google search of "feminism" proved fruitful to my inquiry. It led me to a Tumblr blog entitled, "Women Against Feminism," a publication that, in my eyes, is staining the record of human existence by being one of the most demoralizing media outlets of the modern day.

That might seem a bit extreme, so let me explain. The blog consists of various pictures of women holding signs that read why they are not feminists. Some common themes were, 1. "I am not a feminist because men are not the enemy," 2. "I don't need a movement to speak for me," 3. "Feminists are complainers and that gets you nowhere" and 4. "I don't like labels."

Ok, so here's the thing. To be a feminist does not make one a man-hater — if anything, it brings men and women closer by setting them on the level playing field of equality. Being a feminist does not involve conforming, nor does it require sacrificing one's individuality; in fact, the simple act of identifying as a feminist has the profound effect of widening the movement's base and increasing the chances of gender equality's success.

As for point three, in order to incite change and get people's attention, one must complain, at least at the beginning. And finally, for number four, sometimes a clear label acts as advertising to attract people to a cause and a unifier for all those involved. Therefore

to me, points three and four are moot.

Just repudiating these claims is not enough; the problem is that those women uploading webcam photos to "Women Against Feminism" aren't the only ones with flawed perceptions of the movement. Many people, in addition to those women on Tumblr and that quarter of the crowd at Midd Uncensored, would not stand up for the "I am a feminist" prompt. I have one particular group in mind — the Republican Party.

Ever heard of the "Republican War on Women?" This politically in-vogue, liberal catch phrase references G.O.P. policies that restrict women's rights — namely reproductive rights, rights concerning prosecution of violence against women and rights in the workplace.

While it's sad that the Republican Party has been painted with such a broad and accusatory brush, it isn't exactly inaccurate. Looking at the last claim specifically, that Republicans oppose women's rights in the workplace, there is evidence that Democrats are the party of progress on gender equality and Republicans are the party of stagnation if not regression on the issue.

In 2009, as one of his first acts in office and serving as a bellwether for future Democratic feminist policy

pushes, President Obama signed the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. In so doing, Obama and the Democrats who supported him overpowered the actions of Senate Republicans and Republican Presidential candidate John McCain who opposed the bill.

Good triumphed over evil that time,

"To be a feminist does not make one a man-hater — if anything, it brings men and women closer by setting them on the level playing field of equality."

but we cannot assume that the job is done. Because while there might now be legislation ensuring equal pay for men and women, there is no gender Magna Carta in the heart of every citizen.

For reasons beyond my understanding, some people — Republican politicians, those women on Tumblr and even Middlebury students — still are not standing to call themselves feminists. While I realize that this does not necessarily mean that they are against equal rights for women, in my opinion, not identifying with the movement might as well make it so.

Because there still is not parity among the genders, as evidenced by the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act debacle, the stakes are too high to have a nuanced, "I'd-rather-not-label-myself" view of feminism or misperception of the movement. I urge anyone with whom the message of this article resonates to stand up from now on because we are stronger as a whole, not as three-quarters, and equality for every person is a movement we can all stand behind.

Life as a NARP: It's What You Make of it

READER OP-ED

Blake Shapkinsky '15 is from Bayonne, N.J.

Taken aback I was when I read all the hullabaloo regarding the benefits of being an athlete on campus. I find the apparent miscommunication between athletes and non-athletes to be particularly shameful, considering how moderate and level-headed Middlebury students tend to be when discussing social issues. Regardless of the extent to which we participate in athletics, a substantial majority of Middlebury students are Non-A cappella Regular People (NARPs).

As a two sport athlete with close ties to the a cappella community, I am constantly reminded about the benefits a cappella students enjoy — benefits of which most athletes can only dream. One of Middlebury's premier a cappella groups, Dissipated 8, recently travelled around the Northeast to perform dozens of live concerts. What makes me so irate is that this school organization can profit by selling compact discs (i.e. CDs) to their adoring fans. The double standard is nauseating; if I as an athlete tried to sell my autograph or jersey to any of the 30 student fans at a football game, or even if I tried to profit from my likeness being used as part of Middlebury's promotional material, I would be severely disciplined.

Tis the plight of a NARP, both for athletes and non-athletes — athletes cannot profit from playing their sport and non-athletes cannot profit from anything (what would they sell? Art? Literature? HA!) These a cappella stu-

dents, supposedly on equal footing with other students, clearly rise above the rest. The puppets (a.k.a. Middlebury students) venerate a cappella people to absurd degrees. We pack Mead Chapel for their "Jambos," we attend every show they casually offer to appease the masses, we vie for their love and attention. I so often hear women swooning for Zach Weiss '15, a member of the Dissipated 8, that when I tried to keep track of how many times it happened I lost count in the low triple digits. Athletes certainly do not enjoy these luxuries (except the men's basketball team, but what- ever).

Comments made by Will Fleming '17, also in Dissipated 8, affirm my thoughts about the social privileges enjoyed by a cappella groups. "Yeah we throw parties and stuff," Fleming describes, "girls love you for it, guys love you for it." As a NARP, I could not imagine throwing a party with my athlete

friends and having people 'love me for it.' I truly admire the a cappella culture where one is able to have social gatherings with friends yet not have others deem your culture toxic and exclusive. When asked a carefully worded follow-up question about this very point, Fleming responded, "both."

Next, I asked Fleming about the bonds of friendship formed in a cappella. He explained that, upon his entering into the a cappella world, he "immediately had a group of brothers," denoting the friendships formed with his singing mates. As Hannah Bristol '14.5 and Isaac Baker '14.5 rightfully acknowledge, it is unfair for these

people to gain friends based on shared group membership while "the [non-athletes] are hunting for their own community, building friendships around any other shared interest." We might as well make some big NARP group just so everyone can say they are included in something, our inability

to sing well uniting us all.

Last week, Harry Zieve-Cohen '15 wrote an Op-Ed exploring if Middlebury leaves us with better values than when we entered. The answer, Harry, is no — Middlebury as an institution is failing us. "We are paying into a system that fetishizes" a cappella. How can we let our students graduate into a world that does not share the same fetishization of a cappella that we do? It will rip apart the fragile minds of all but the mentally toughest Middlebury alumni.

To conclude, I'll again invoke the words of Bristol and Baker (with a slight twist):

"We are a DIII school. Very few, if any, of our current [singers] will ever seriously [sing in an a cappella group] again after college. And yet for these four years, they are disproportionately valorized and require a tremendous time commitment [sic]. Students get tremendous enjoyment out of [a cappella]. They have learned teamwork and leadership, made their best friends and love their [singing] experience. But let's be honest. You can reap these benefits without dedicating most of your time to your [a cappella group]."

Bristol and Baker are correct in recognizing that NARPs can have experiences rivaling or surpassing those of a cappella people. Do not feel intimidated by the social reverence the sheeple grant to a cappella groups. Whether you're a NARP or a singer, your Middlebury experience is what you make of it.

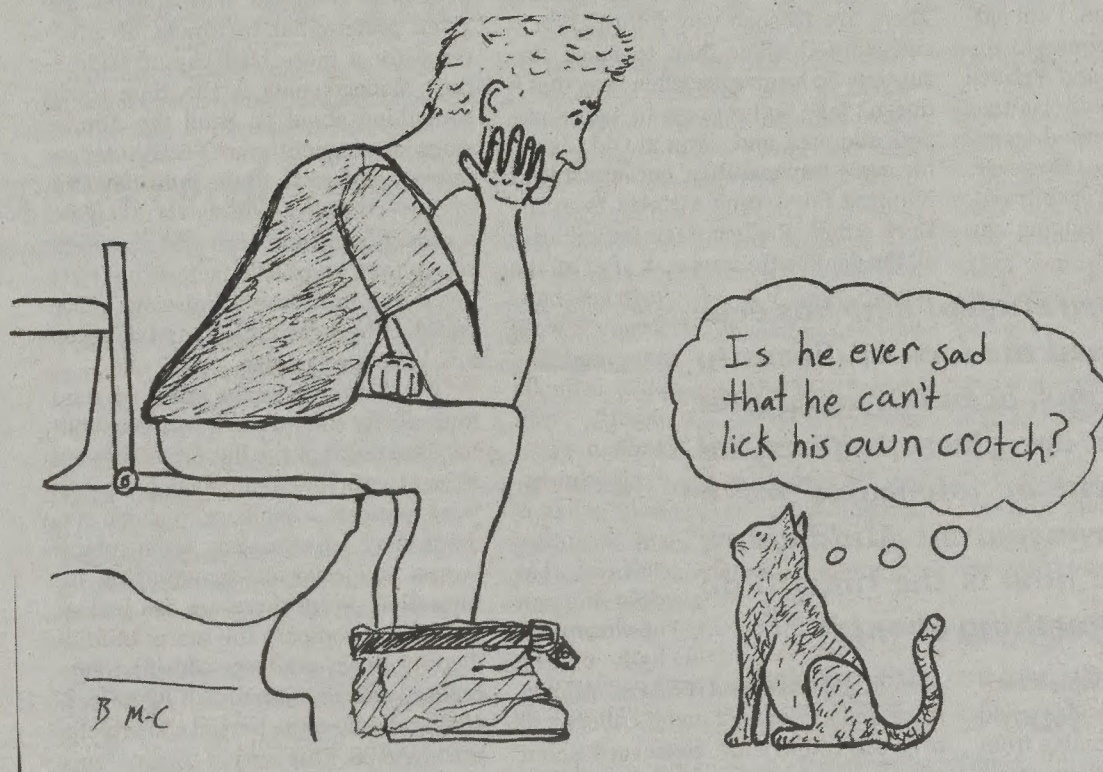


CHARLOTTE FAIRLESS our inability

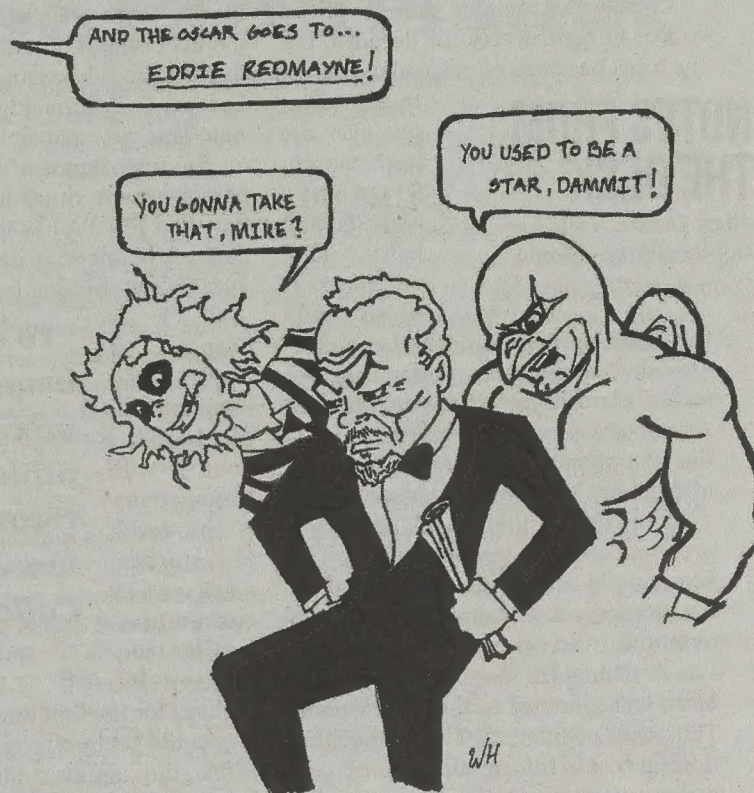
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The Middlebury Campus

Campus Cartoons



BOONE MCCOY-CRISP



WIN HOMER



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

College for Cats by Emily Cox



Getting it Right on Divestment

"We strive for 105% support," chuckled first-year Taylor Cook after reading the

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sophie Vaughan '17 is from Oakland, Calif.

feature regarding students' opinions on divestment from fossil fuels. Cook's comment referred to a large infographic, which allegedly claimed in bold that, "55% of students support divestment from fossil fuels," and "50% of students are not for divestment or have no opinion."

I was not a star on my high school's math team like Cook, but it didn't take me long to realize that $50 + 55$ do indeed equal 105 and that to have data on 105% of the student body's opinions on fossil fuels divestment is impossible. I too started to chuckle.

This light-heartedness was soon clouded by motivation to uncover truthful data on students' opinions, however, as I realized this issue — divestment — is too important to be reported on inaccurately.

The data purportedly used to create this infographic and provide substance for the text alongside it came

from the recent SGA student life survey. Lucky for me, I am on the SGA and was able to access the information easily.

I found no errors in the SGA data; all of the categories added up to a clean 100%. Thus, my first order of business is to rectify the data and its portrayal. According to the survey, 55% of students support divestment, 15% of students do not support divestment, and 30% of students have no opinion. Rock-stars Krista Karlson and Day Robins have provided this new infographic which for one, adds up to 100% and two, does not lump together the "no opinion" and "not for divestment" categories which we feel was an arbitrary and misleading combination.

Unfortunately, my concerns with the quality of the reporting presented in this section of the feature do not end here. The article interviewed two sources for comment on the results of the survey, and despite the fact that a majority of students are in favor of divestment, both sources were highly critical.

In order to make up for the imbalance in the reporting I would like to challenge the thinking of source one, who was quoted saying that, "divestment doesn't have a shot in achieving

what a carbon tax or cap and trade can achieve in reducing emissions." To this I would say that we are by no means advocating divestment instead of other means of addressing carbon emissions. To the contrary, divestment works to raise the saliency of issues related to climate change and expose and undermine the inordinate power and exploitative practices of the fossil fuel industry so as to build a movement powerful enough to push the carbon emission reduction legislation source one suggests, through our fossil fuel funded legislature.

For those who question whether a divestment movement is really necessary and believe that Congress will pass meaningful carbon reduction legislation just by looking at the facts, let me remind you: we live in illogical times. This past year, 2014, was the warmest year on record. Let's repeat that: 2014 was the hottest year to date. And yet, Congress has yet to pass a carbon tax or institute a cap and trade program for carbon emissions. And when we look to history, we can't deny that the most significant pieces of legislation in the last century could not have been achieved without a powerful movement, often with forceful student support, pushing them forward.

In continuation, the second source quoted in the feature displayed concerns about the financial risks of divestment. I have written extensively about the financial argument for divestment in previous op-eds that you can access on the campus website, but to recap: socially responsible investing, and in this case fossil free investing, in fact provides higher-risk adjusted returns. Additionally, in this discussion of costs and benefits I would also like to bring awareness to the costs Middlebury is already accruing by not divesting in the form of damage to our brand and reputation as an environmental leader, and donations to the school from alumni who are unwilling to give money as long as we are invested in fossil fuels.

The section of the feature about which I have been referring had no ending, it merely stopped in the middle of a sentence, an obvious mistake which I can't help but feel was a little meant to be as it has allowed me to fill in the parts of the article I felt missing. In the same way, I hope everyone in the Middlebury community challenges themselves to learn about and engage with divestment as we move into the next few months of the campaign, as the world burns.

Be Brave: We Need FERPA Now

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Jack Dolan '15 is an Opinions Editor from Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

College admissions have been a source of controversy for decades, but the topic has been of particular interest to this campus over the past month. Students and faculty have long wondered which traits the College prefers and whether the biases that shape these preferences are racist, classist or otherwise illiberal. An important result of this discourse is that the opaque admissions process at Middlebury has come under scrutiny.

In my time at this school, admission preferences has been one of many issues people debate. I have heard cries for change echo across Chapel Lawn over and over again, always with the same demand: more transparency. More transparency in the endowment! The board of trustees! The administration! Access to information is proposed to be a panacea for all our social ills and injustices, so I naturally assumed it would be prescribed to cure this admissions ailment. But, by and large, it has not been.

As a student organization that allegedly embodies the ideals of the free press, it is the *Campus'* duty to uncover the truth, whether on our own or through the help of others, and to share

it with those who need it most. As a member of that organization, I am baffled by the lukewarm response to the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act. This newspaper has editorialized on the importance of increased transparency many times before. However, now that FERPA has made such transparency possible, instead of doing our duty we are shirking from it.

"To every student who has ever bemoaned the lack of diversity on campus, been outraged that athletes are given preferential treatment or advocated for a more transparent Middlebury College: now is the time to do something about it."

The change of heart concerning this particular bout with transparency is the result of students seriously contemplating its consequences, perhaps for the first time. People's feelings could get hurt, social divides could widen, the campus could crumble from instability. But these objections could be raised any time someone calls for transparency. Why is this time different?

Because it is only now that we have what we want that we realize how much we are afraid of it.

The same goes for other organizations that adopt credos of social justice and institutional accountability. Trans-

parency is terrifying for all parties. There are reasons why information is safeguarded other than to mask corruption. So forgive me when I say that it doesn't take real courage to bang some pots and pans and shout at Old Chapel for more transparency, because it isn't required for writing a Notes from the Desk either. Real courage means after all the demonstrations end, after all the

articles have been written, and the door is finally open, you walk in.

Undoubtedly, what is on the other side of that door is a can of worms. In light of the current buzz around FERPA, Admissions departments of major colleges all over the country are concerned about what opening it may bring. Middlebury's Admissions department and the *Campus* editorial board have suggested a few outcomes, ranging from the dubious and irrelevant to the probable and important. However, what is certain to crawl out of that can is more information and more conversation.

To every student who has ever bemoaned the lack of diversity on cam-

pus, been outraged that athletes are given preferential treatment or advocated for a more transparent Middlebury College: now is the time to do something about it. Send the Admissions department your FERPA Access request and go in to see your file. One of the sections you will see on that file is a collection of numbers that represent scores for a number of factors that were given to you by the Admissions office based on how desirable a candidate you are. Write them down.

The *Campus*, in the spirit of good journalism, should work with any willing student(s) of the hundreds that are near-experts in data management software to create a database to which students may anonymously submit scores and relevant demographic information. From there, we can look at trends and compare the scores of Middlebury legacy students with first-generation college students, of white persons and non-white persons, of athletes with NARPS. This is what transparency can do — if we are brave enough to take advantage of this unprecedented possibility.

If we truly value increased transparency, institutional accountability, and social justice, it is imperative that we use the tools at our disposal to do what we believe to be right. To do anything else would be an utter failure of principle.

The Arrogance of Youth

ECHOES

Alex Newhouse '17 is from Boulder, Colo.

Most of us probably came to Middlebury in order to have our beliefs challenged. We wanted to confront situations that would make us think and take on problems from different perspectives. We wanted to expand our ability to consider critically and to learn from the people and places around us.

But we are also young. There's a self-confidence among the student body that occurs naturally as the result of us having lived so few years, having yet to confront the more brutal responsibilities of adulthood.

This is not the same as ignorance — I have long felt that young people are often unfairly maligned, given no real voice in the matters that concern them and passed over because of a perceived lack of experience-born wisdom. We are all extremely intelligent individuals who have the right to be heard.

But this also does not immunize us from arrogance. Overt, in-your-face arrogance is rare, as having an air of superiority has rightly been shoved away and stigmatized for being destructive and harmful. But under the surface of our interactions and activities simmers a more subtle, more subdued arrogance that can harm just as easily as snobby pretentiousness. It manifests itself in convictions solidified not by rationality but by emotion and in a feeling of invulnerability.

Those who read my columns last year may remember my discussion of stu-

dent protest movements on campus. I feel that many of these fail to take into consideration the full range of impacts that would arise from their proposed change. This, I believe, is a result of that subtle over-confidence. When we find a matter that interests and inspires us, naturally we wrap ourselves up in it. It becomes a driving force in our day-to-day lives, guiding our actions and giving us the fuel to work harder and longer for the purpose of achieving some change for good. This, however, can lead to an emotional investment in a problem that requires measured rationality.

Everyone emotionally buys into the movements they support. We wouldn't be human if we didn't. But when the emotion comes first, when the rhetoric changes to "Of course I'm right, because this thing is just so clearly wrong," that's when the movement shifts. It takes on the burden of being an identity rather than an interest. For struggles that involve our identities, this is often necessary. For more abstract movements, this might be counterproductive. It makes us terrified to be wrong. It takes our ability to accept criticism and dampens it, dissuading us from shifting to seeking a compromise and not an outright destruction of the system we oppose. This is the arrogance of conviction, of allowing emotion to override reason. It's the arrogance of "I feel that this thing is wrong, so of course it's wrong, and it should be overthrown."

The next type of arrogance causes us to think, or at least project the image, that we're invulnerable. Each weekend, it is common to drink or smoke. And each

weekend, it is not unusual to observe students stumbling back to their dorm rooms or throwing up outside of a party, and even less uncommon to simply see people acting in ways that they would never otherwise behave. Each weekend, students elect to imbibe substances that literally change, dampen, enhance or break apart the way the brain works in a simple desire to feel something different. Each weekend, students choose to drink something that is immediately and noticeably poisonous to our bodies in order to feel and act a little differently.

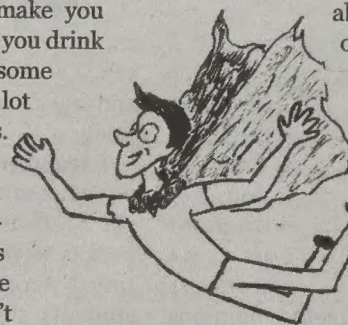
Imagine explaining alcohol someone who has never heard of it before: It's something that virtually eliminates your social caution, that decreases your balance, that negatively affects your hearing, sight, and speech, will make you throw up and feel awful later if you drink too much, and will destroy some of your organs if you drink a lot for too many months or years. I'm not above drinking at all, and I believe strongly that it can be used fun to do in moderation. But so often students seem convinced that they are invulnerable, that they won't feel the negative effects of this. Too often do students go into the night with the desire to gamble on their well-being, not fully internalizing that drinking like this can, and does, harm our bodies. And too often do we use alcohol and other substances to hide our vulnerabilities, to avoid the possibility of having to confront true, fully present interactions with

other people or the things that weigh down our minds.

I, too, have been subject to both of these arrogances. I am not above them at all. But continually I struggle with the question of why we do these things. Why do we get on the emotional bandwagon of movements? Why are we afraid to consider the possibility of our movement being wrong or not feasible? Why do we put our bodies through pain to reach some ephemeral mental liberation and alteration? Too often do we shy away from these questions. Too often, we allow ourselves to be cloaked in self-confidence, to believe that our way is the right way. Giving students the freedom to do what they want to do is vitally important. But this in no way precludes the

ability to challenge overriding social trends. We don't have to go along with a drinking culture because "students have the right to choose."

We don't have to let our social movements become fads of emotional bandwagoning. We can push for greater moderation, greater consideration and greater rationality. In our classes we open our minds and accept the fact that we're not always right. It's not so different to do the same thing in the rest of our life.



RICO

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Fight Isn't Over for Gay Marriage

READER OP-ED

Danny Zhang '15 is from Toronto, Canada.

Over the last few months, thanks to the Supreme Court declining to take up the marriage equality petitions before it in October, a tidal wave of judicial decisions in favor of marriage equality has swept across the nation's courts, expanding the number of states where same-sex marriage is legal to 37.

More than 70 percent of Americans now live in a state where same-sex marriage is legal. Poll after poll conducted in recent months continue to show a solid majority of Americans, including an overwhelming 80 percent of those under 30, in support of marriage equality.

This torrid pace of progress, combined with a likely Supreme Court ruling establishing a national constitutional right to same-sex marriage this June, has led some people to declare victory in the civil rights movement of our generation.

It is true that the rapidly evolving attitude around marriage equality over the last two decades is without precedent in the history of American society. Twenty years ago, just a quarter of

Americans supported the legalization of same-sex marriage and a Democratic president signed into law, with wide bipartisan support from Congress, a bill that pre-emptively prohibited federal benefits from being conferred upon same-sex married couples. Today, support for marriage equality has more than doubled and that law, better known as DOMA, has been declared unconstitutional.

By every measure, the LGBT community has won the battle for marriage equality. But even as we celebrate all this progress, I am wary of what will happen after this June, after marriage equality becomes the law of the land, after the dust has settled on all the exciting legal battles and after the big name lawyers have moved on to the next big case.

Yes, it is a wonderful thing and a giant step forward that every American will be able to join in the sacred union with whomever they love and receive the benefits and bear the burdens of that contract. But just as the movement for equality between the races lags on decades after the Civil

Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act, the movement for LGBT equality is about so much more than winning the legal fight on same-sex marriage.

It is about protecting LGBT teens from discrimination and bullying in their schools and their homes. Today, LGBT youths are four times more likely to attempt suicide and as much as 40 percent of homeless youths identify as LGBT. Marriage means little to you if you've just been kicked out of your house or are harassed by your peers for being different.

It is about protecting LGBT workers from discrimination at their workplace. Today, employers can fire workers based on their sexual orientation in

29 states and based on their gender identity in 35. Marriage means little to you if you're struggling to feed yourself because your homophobic boss just gave you a pink slip.

It is about protecting the right of a loved one to visit their same-sex partner in the hospital when he or she is sick, for same-sex couples to jointly adopt children and start a normal family together and for crimes committed

against someone's sexual orientation or gender identity to be prosecuted exactly as they are: hate crimes. It is about addressing a new HIV crisis in the LGBT community, one that has caused the infection rate among young gay and bisexual men to rise 22 percent between 2008 and 2010 and disproportionately affects African-Americans and Latinos.

Without all these civil protections from discrimination and more concentrated efforts to alleviate the real, substantive plight of LGBT life in America, life as an LGBT individual will still lack the full dignity it deserves, for the right to marry is nothing but an empty shell if that is where progress stops.

Marriage equality has galvanized the nation because it is a straightforward issue and has a clear finish line. That finish line is now in sight but let's not delude ourselves in the excitement of the moment and declare the battle over. Breaking down all these remaining legal and social barriers will require just as much energy, patience, and willpower as has been put into the battle for marriage equality, if not more.

As the great Winston Churchill once said: "Now, this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

"The right to marry is nothing but an empty shell if that is where progress stops."

Advice for Febs: Make it Happen

THE UNPOPULAR OPINION

Andrew Defalco '15 is from Boston, Mass.

I am not a fan of unsolicited advice, and with that in mind I am going to give some. This is the last generation of Febs I will be here to see before tragically graduating a little less than a year from now. While I will hopefully be ready to go by then, three years ago I could have used some frank advice because as most Febs know, the scariest part of being a Feb is not getting out and seeing the world, but finally getting on this campus. So keeping in mind the memories of intense insecurity, doubt and anxiety from three years ago, I know that my freshman self would have appreciated a little real talk. So listen up:

Like many febs I applied early decision, checked both the Feb and non-Feb boxes, got my acceptance, and waited for more than a year to get on campus. That was a long, long year. So long that I forgot much of what the campus looked like and why I had chosen to apply. I was absolutely sick of explaining people why I was going to be attending college a semester late. No, I was not a special student. Yes, I will graduate in four years. No, I'm not on any sort of wait list. After all this I had set my expectations high and envisioned my college experience to be some kind of blend

between Animal House, Old School, and Good Will Hunting. While I would still jump at the opportunity to don a toga, Middlebury isn't quite like the films would suggest. Middlebury is not going to exceed all your expectations. There's going to be disappointment, hardship and lot of late nights. Don't let that get the better of you. Make your experience your own; nobody is going to make it for you. Do things you love with people you love and don't feel bad about it.

My second point of anxiety came with classes. It took me too long to realize what I wanted to study. I had vague intentions of "exploring my options," and I took a lot of classes for reasons I don't quite know. More than that, I felt a tremendous amount of pressure to declare a major as I saw my peers connecting with advisors and finding exciting areas of focus like, "Religion with an Environmental focus." I also struggled with the pressure we have all felt to select a major that will "make us some money." When it comes to a major, don't worry about it. Majors tend to find the student, not the other way around. Pick a major where the classes do not feel like classes. Pick a major because it explains the world to you. Pick a major that won't have you looking at the clock every fifteen minutes. Chances are you will be better at the things you enjoy and you can make some money doing it. Take your time, find your groove, there are too many incredible classes here to be taking

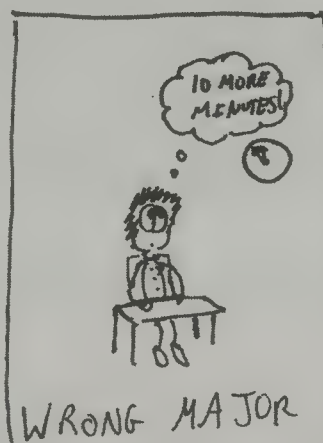
classes you don't enjoy.

Let's talk about social life. How do you talk about something that so many Midd kids struggle to have a healthy relationship with? I remember looking forward to each weekend with a pent up enthusiasm that seemed to wane week-by-week as I realized that, despite what the movies had told me, college students actually do other things with their free time than drink. Not that there's anything wrong with drinking. Give it enough time though and you will realize that weekends are commonly used as a way to "blow off steam." While I'm all for having a good time, and you should

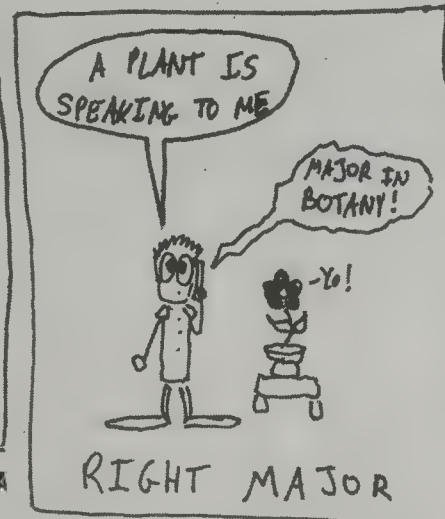
have a good time, don't change. Be the person at 1:00 a.m. Saturday morning in the Grille that you are Tuesday in class. No, don't go drunk to class, but don't use the weekends as an excuse to be

a different person.

I could go on and on, but advice tends to lose its potency the more it's given. More than anything, baby febs, it's up to you. Things are not going to be fantastic because your tour guide or your orientation leader said so. Things are going to be fantastic because you make it so. So keep meeting new people even when you feel like you have your circle of friends, try new things even when you think you know what you love, and be confident with who you are. Everything else is really up to you; take it from an old guy.



VAASU TANEJA



Students: Think Twice Before Viewing Files

If you've read the editorial this week or the news article from last week, you know that a group of Stanford students discovered that they have access to reader comments on their admissions files through the Federal

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Claire Abbadi '16 is a News Editor from McClean, Va.

Kate Hamilton '15 is an Opinions Editor from Washington, D.C.

1. Ask yourselves why you want to know. Is it for an ego boost? Are you just curious? Do you think seeing your file will provide helpful feedback for future applications? Students viewing their files need to be prepared for the possibility that it will be an unpleasant experience; that they will see things they didn't want to know, such as low

ratings, harsh comments, and language that could be considered tokenizing. We feel that there is relatively little to be gained from the experience and that viewing one's file is potentially opening a Pandora's box, with far-reaching consequences for students and admissions officers alike. Now if you don't buy into the individual repercussions that you could face, see reasons 2 & 3 for concerns and potential consequences that could affect us all.

2. This is the busiest time of year for admissions offices across the country and we don't think that Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles or anyone else in the committee should be taking time away from reviewing applications to explain to students in individual fifteen-minute meetings why they were admitted to Middlebury. It's a misallocation of resources and it's frankly not their job, even though it may now be their obligation under law.

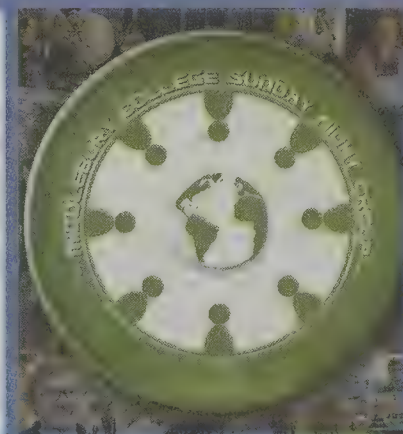
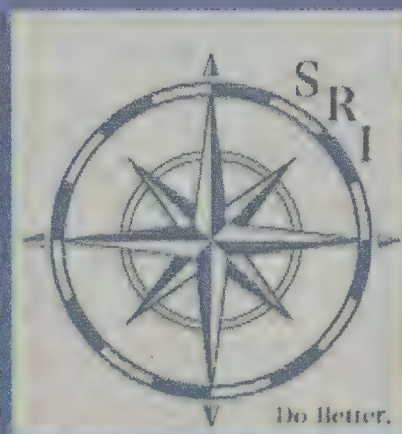
3. We worry that admissions readers will be less candid in their commentary of applicants if students continue to opt to see their files. Our editorial encourages admissions to continue to be incisive and write as if no one were reading, but we feel that is an unrealistic suggestion. It's human nature to edit and contort your evaluation of

someone when you know that they will be reading what is said. However, we believe the censoring of these comments could be extremely detrimental to the admissions process. This is why the Common Application prompts students to waive their right to see recommendations: so that teachers and counselors can write honestly and openly about students. If we take away that venue, how will admissions continue to have incisive conversations that lead to well-informed decisions?

4. Finally, we find it a bit ridiculous that the same students who didn't even know this loophole existed until roughly a month ago are now filled with righteous indignation over perceived threats to this "right."

Ultimately, we write for a newspaper. It goes without saying that we advocate for transparency and freedom of press when it serves a greater good. But we remain unconvinced that this is one of those instances and we are skeptical that the potential benefits outweigh the costs. We aren't telling you what to do; we are merely suggesting that each of you take a minute to understand the potential consequences of the choice you are making.

FIGHTING THE FIGHT: 12 F



The below compilation of memos was collected here in an effort to inform the incoming President, Laurie L. Patton, of the conscious effort and passion with which Middlebury students engage with this community. To recognize the importance in the work of each of these groups and others, the memos together make up one brief that will ideally be a starting point for student and administrative collaboration.

From the first entire student body strike in 1879 to the peace strike of 1936, Middlebury students have a history of pushing for change within the college as well as collaborating with the broader Middlebury area community. The value of cultivating ownership of our college community, as in the case of the 1879 protest against the demerit system, has been passed through the many generations of students and is present today in the student organizations dedicated to incorporating historically unheard voices. The more recent work of Students Against the Rise in Tuition and Unjust Policies (STARTUP) in 1983 also worked to address inconsistencies between our stated values and actions. Today, the work of beyond the green and It Happens Here amplify often diminished voices while groups like MiddIncluded, JusTalks, Women of Color and EatReal change the way the Middlebury College community thinks and functions at a more basic level.

As in the case of the 1936 Peace Strike, students from many different eras have employed their Middlebury College education and position to draw attention to issues of local, national and international importance. In the mid 1980's, students and faculty both pushed for divestment from US companies profiting in apartheid South Africa and were successful when the college divested in 1986. Today, the Sunday Night Group collaborates with local and national organizers to address climate change while the Socially Responsible Investment Club and SNG campaign together for divestment from fossil fuels and companies profiting from the destruction of the planet.

JUSTALKS

Goal: Their goal is to "encourage first-years (...) to engage in dialogue on issues surrounding identity, privilege, power and inequality." They also want to become mandatory part of first-year experience.

History: JusTalks as an organization was created in Fall 2011 but the first JusTalks event took place in Winter Term 2013. In the past, it was a one hour discussion section as part of the first-year experience but they want to expand that and make it mandatory. JusTalks won the Extraordinary Initiative Award from the Dean of the College and the SGA.

Relevance: "By deeply engaging in these experiences [of self-reflection about identity], we can further cultivate the ethical and social qualities essential for leadership in Middlebury's students."

NUTRITION OUTREACH AND MENTORING

Goal: Their goal is to "raise awareness about the importance of nutrition. We especially reach out to children and low-income families to teach cooking that emphasizes healthy, inexpensive, and local foods."

History: The group restarted with new leadership in Fall 2013 and since then they have held one-time service events as well as volunteering regularly at the Mary Hogan School in Middlebury and at the Vergennes Boys and Girls Club teaching nutrition and cooking lessons.

Relevance: "NOM provides important services by educating students about the reality of hunger as well as working with children and families to teach them about how they can easily and inexpensively cook healthy, nourishing meals."

Q&A

Goal: Q&A aims to "provide social, political, academic, and emotional support for students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ)" and create "safe social spaces for students of all genders and sexualities to engage with each other."

History: Launched Fall 2013, Q&A has already promoted changes such as including a preferred name and gender pronoun page on BannerWeb. Last April, they reached out to faculty trying to educate them about preferred gender pronouns and how to be an ally to students in their classrooms.

Relevance: "Students who identify as LGBTQ historically (in the past two years) have been the targets of hateful letters posted on their doors as well as receiving threats through social media/dating apps. We hope to support students going through these kinds of explicit dangers and the stresses that accompany them as well as working to prevent these from happening in the future."

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT CLUB

Goal: "SRI strives to align Middlebury's financial investments with our institutional values of environmental stewardship and global citizenship."

History: SRI has student liaisons who meet with the CFO of the College and the Investment Committee to advocate for socially responsible investing. Furthermore, they pushed for the establishment of the Sustainable Investments Initiative which holds \$50,000 and founded a new investment group called Research Into Sustainable Equity (RISE).

Impact: "Middlebury should make an institutional commitment to endowment transparency and integrity, integrating environmental, social, and governance criteria across the entire portfolio. Specifically, Middlebury should annually publish reports on proxy voting, percentage holdings in ESG areas of concern, industry breakdown, and top ten funds."

MIDDINCLUDED

Goal: "Our campaign seeks to change the current Eurocentric Cultures and Civilizations Requirements to make them more egalitarian and rigorous, so they may truly reflect Middlebury's mission and values."

History: MiddIncluded began in Fall 2013 with a petition on the SGA's We the Middkids platform.

Relevance: "Reforming the cultures and civilizations requirements will better prepare students to explore avenues across cultures and will add an element of academic rigor yielding graduates who are both more competitive in a global setting, and are more aware of the nuances of that setting."

GAP YEAR STUDENTS AT MIDDLEBURY

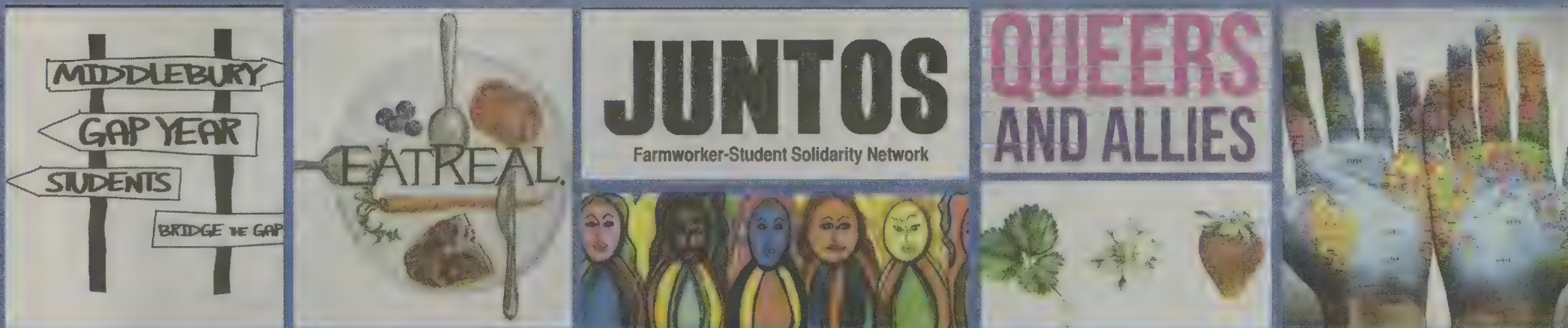
Goal: The mission of Gap Year Students at Middlebury is to create a community for those who have taken time off by giving support in the college adjustment process and to bring together gap year students on campus.

Immediate Impact: With a new president, Middlebury could make taking time off before coming to college more accessible to a more diverse group of students, potentially providing scholarships or using its preexisting network abroad to create opportunities for students.

History of Accomplishments: Each year, Middlebury receives approximately 40 new gap year students. This year, we worked with the orientation organizers to create an orientation event for Gap Year students, organize overnight off-campus retreat and host several dinners.

FISTS FOR CHANGE

INTRODUCTION BY MAEVE GRADY
TEXTS PROVIDED BY STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
DESIGN BY JULIA HATHEWAY



WOMEN OF COLOR

Goal: "Enlightening and uplifting women of all backgrounds and their surrounding communities on campus" and fostering discourse on "race, class, body image, sexuality and gender."

Impact: "WoC hopes that we (students from marginalized backgrounds) finally become a priority for any programming and initiatives in the College and that rather than just providing lip service to diversity and inclusion, the president, the board of trustees and the rest of the administrators take the burden off the students to actually work on making Middlebury a less oppressive institution."

History: WOC put on events during homecoming for alums and students of color in October and for Women's History month in March.

BEYOND THE GREEN

Goal: beyond the green is "a student-run publication that seeks to provide space for voices that are not being heard on our campus. we are grounded by politics that are radical, anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-classist, anti-homophobic and anti-ableist (against all forms of oppression) and that reject the structural neo-liberal paradigm that characterizes Middlebury College and its official publications."

History of Accomplishments: In the Spring of 2014, beyond the green first started publishing submissions from students.

That semester, we also had a bi-weekly column in *The Middlebury Campus* in order to occupy dominant spaces that are not (pro)active in covering or publishing stories and ideas from marginalized voices.

Relevance: The College has often placed the burden on students to make change, then appropriated this activism when it behooves them to do so. As you stated in a Duke Chronicle article, "we need to take the burden off of each identity group to be the only visible leaders on diversity on campus," and that change desperately needs to happen at Middlebury.

SUNDAY NIGHT GROUP

"SNG is an open-space forum for students to organize for climate justice with an eye towards environmental, political, and social equity."

History: Started in 2005, SNG has given birth to other student organizations like EatReal, Solar Decathlon, Socially Responsible Investment Club and 350.org. They also have sent many groups of students to demonstrations such as those against the Keystone XL Pipeline.

Relevance: "In advocating for environmental responsibility on and off campus, SNG works to uphold the college's mission to incorporate environmental stewardship into our practices."

IT HAPPENS HERE

Goal: It Happens Here is a student-led initiative that amplifies the voices of survivors of sexual violence. Survivors on this campus are encouraged to submit their stories at ihhmidd.org, and readings are held every semester. It Happens Here is currently the only student-led group which focuses on students' experiences with sexual violence.

History of Accomplishments: The It Happens Here Project is a movement that was started by Middlebury survivors and allies, yet IHH's reach has grown far beyond Middlebury (ihhproject.org). The It Happens Here Project began at Middlebury and has now reached a variety of campuses, from Rice to Tufts to Amherst, and even to Oxford.

-On November 10th, we held a reading, 17 survivors read.

-Within three days of the event, our site had been viewed by 1,000 different people, each spending an average of 10 minutes on our site.

-Since founding four years ago, 80 survivors on campus have shared

-We strive to create spaces for students to engage further with these topics, from hosting weekly meetings/lecturers to staging protests.

-We continue to speak up whenever we can- on the radio, in the newspaper, and with other activists in the extended IHH community.

Goal: EatReal is a student-run organization at Middlebury College that aims to increase the amount of real food served in Middlebury's dining halls. We consider food "real" when it meets at least one of the following criteria: local, humane, ecologically sound, and fair.

Immediate Impact: With a new President, Middlebury could increase real food purchases to 50% by 2020, and in doing so we will further the national Real Food Challenge campaign to shift \$1 billion of university food budgets towards local, ecologically sound, fair, and humane food by 2020.

History of Accomplishments:

April 2013: EatReal hosts "Real Food Week" - events included a dinner, panel and speakers addressing sustainable food in Vermont and the US

May 2014: First round of product switches approved by President Liebowitz and Patrick Norton, bumping real food to ~25.4%

Dec. 2015: President Liebowitz and Patrick Norton sign Middlebury on to the Real Food Challenge, committing to 30% real food by 2016

JUNTOS: FARMWORKER-STUDENT SOLIDARITY NETWORK

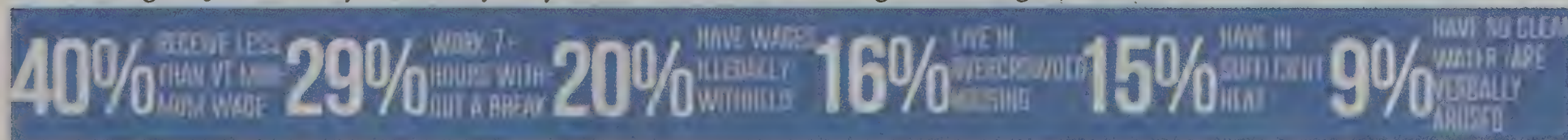
Goal: Juntos strives to build a strong bridge between the Middlebury College and migrant farmworker communities in order to sustain collaborative social justice initiatives based on issues of local importance.

History of Accomplishments: Our most recent, and perhaps largest, accomplishment was supporting migrant farmworkers in their campaign for greater mobility. Students stood with farmworkers as they spoke out, and eventually passed a bill securing the right to acquire drivers' licenses regardless of immigration status.

Relevance:

Juntos is dedicated to engaging the College in the work we do because we are concerned about some serious problems right in our backyard that we can help alleviate:

A recent Migrant Justice survey found many dairy farmworkers' fundamental rights are being violated.



Middlebury College plays an important role in the food economy of Vermont, purchasing large volumes of food from various sources with student dollars.

IN-QUEER-Y

By Lee Michael Garcia Jimenez and Rubby Valentin Paulino

Last week, I was on my way to town, when a man poked his head out of a navy blue truck and called me a faggot. Mind you, my first reaction to the event was confused: I thought I'd be targeted for the color of my skin and called the n-word, but instead I was called a faggot. Thus, part of me was thrown off by the way I was insulted. In other words, I find myself to be more oppressed as a person of color rather than my sexuality here at Middlebury. Nonetheless, I was called a faggot. I don't know whether the color of my corduroys was a little too bright or the sway of my walk didn't read masculine enough.

The last time I was called a faggot, I reclaimed the word right in front of the person. I gave him a twirl and said "Faggot, faggot, so what I'm a faggot?" This event was much different because I didn't get a chance to respond. The car drove away quickly and I was left with a sunken mind and bitter taste. My reaction was sealed in me.

Similar to other words like queer and even the omnipresent n-word in the black community, faggot is in the works of being reclaimed. The difference, however, is who is saying it. Growing up, I thought the word queer was an insult, and it wasn't until high school that I started seeing the word being used by queer and non-queer people, as it has been reclaimed by academia.

The n-word was way different. I've seen it be used all around me growing up in Washington Heights and it wasn't until I enrolled in a New England prep boarding school that the word became taboo. I had now been surrounded by whiteness. Some white people say it because they understand the history and weight of the word, while some other white people can't wait until they hear a rap song so they could shout it at the top of their lungs. The n-word has, in a way, been reclaimed in pop culture.

The word faggot, however, is still seen by the majority as a highly offensive word and is more difficult to reclaim. It is a more universal bad word since it has been used to discriminate against all types of men with all types of skin colors. I have never used it against a lesbian woman, and so I am painting the word faggot as an attack to all who are not masculine enough.

Unlike the n-word and queer, which have both been reclaimed, faggot makes people uncomfortable and I am still trying to figure out why. Is a word reclaimed when it is often used? Because surely I have heard the n-word so many times it would be ludicrous for me to try and call out someone or a song for saying it. The rapper YG's song "My Nigga" won the 2014 BET Hip Hop Award for Track of the Year. How exactly does Black Entertainment Television perpetuate our oppressor's language and make it a center point of success for the black man? In a way, it is used as an ironic device, a dialogue that goes along the lines of "look at how successful and powerful a nigga can be."

Where is the faggot anthem? Who is going to write a mediocre song that goes #1 in all countries and liberates the fags? Despite how wrong this idea sounds, the same could be said about other reclaimed words decades ago. We must change the language so that oppressive words can be manipulated by those they oppress. We must hold the oppressor accountable for the damage he has been done but importantly, we must show the oppressor that we are resilient and stronger than he deemed us to be.

Student Conference on Apathy & Action

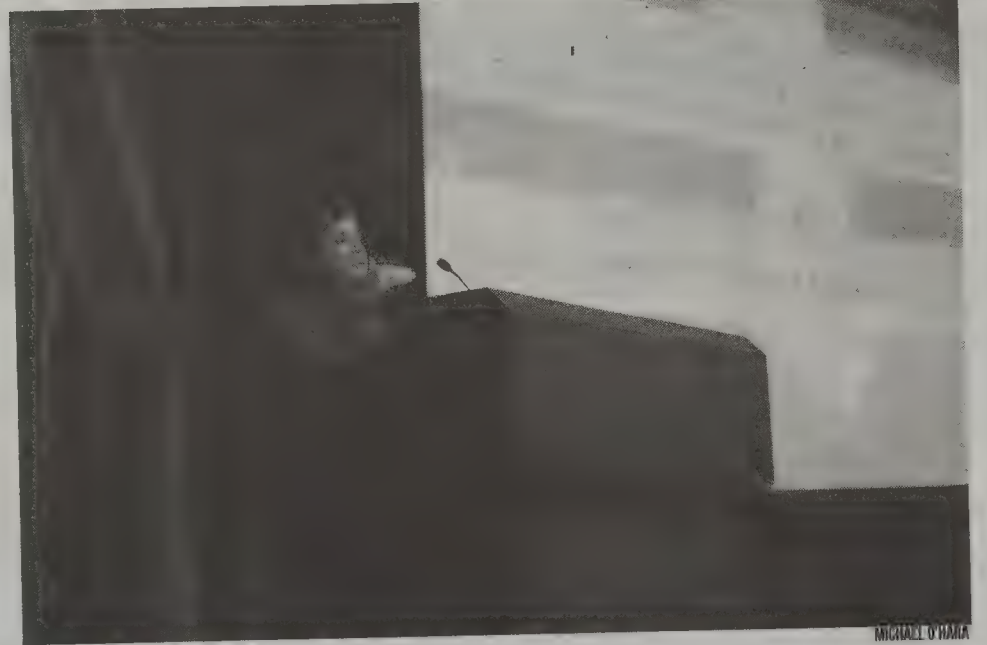
By Olivia Heffernan

The inception of the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs' Student-Led Conference was only a little over a year ago, and yet this year's "Apathy and Action: Exploring Youth-Driven Movements" conference had the appearance of being a long established event on campus. Last year's conference, entitled "Immigration in the Neoliberal Age," set a precedent for progressive and internationally-relevant themes, which continued into this year's conference.

Seeking "to put the latest youth-led movements in perspective and look to the future, aiming to determine the key factors that will be responsible for either bringing or deterring social change," according to the event's online description, students Gabbie Santos '17, Bilal Khan '18, Forest Jarvis '15 and Karen Liu '15 applied to lead and organize this year's conference. Members of the Rohatyn Student Advisory Board (RSAB) selected the "Apathy and Action" proposal and other than financial support, Santos, Khan, Jarvis and Liu have been entirely responsible for orchestrating the conference. Their months of hard work and commitment to exploring the topic of youth-led social action were evident at last week's conference.

After two days of guest speakers, discussions and screenings, the event concluded on the evening of Feb. 20. The conference addressed pertinent topics that were divided into the following five sessions: "Between Protest and Powerlessness: The Startling Ubiquity of Student Activism"; "The Radical Mind"; "Combating Apathy"; "Collective Action and Strategy"; and "The Climate Movement."

Compelling guest speakers, such as Shannon Galpin, founder and director of Mountain2Mountain, Marcela Olivera, the Latin American coordinator for Water for All and Alexandra Barlowe, outreach coordinator for Fossil Free Yale, supplemented each of these sessions — some traveling from as far as Bolivia to attend. In addition to these speakers, Schumann Distinguished Scholar Bill McKibben and Associate Professor of



University of Albany Professor Meredith Weiss lectures on youth revolution in Asia.

Sociology Linus Owens also imparted important knowledge and incited meaningful conversation.

Attendance and engagement was impressive. The Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs (RCGA) Director Tamar Mayer found the event "very successful" and attributed some of the conference's success to the thoughtful ordering of the discussions, "starting with an academic discussion about protest and radicalism and continuing with practitioners."

Thinking back the organizers' involvement in the planning process, Liu was initially drawn to their preliminary conversations.

"These were not just conversations, they were dialogues that we could translate into something larger — something that could engage the entire community and broaden the scope of participants," Liu wrote in an email.

Santos also expressed a desire to have the conference act as a means to "engage the community in thinking about what our roles might be as youth, in the context of social

movements, from the spectrum of apathy to action."

Similarly, Jarvis expressed witnessing "a lot of high-profile student-led events and protests here [at Middlebury], which have been met with varying levels of success ... it seems to be about finding a 'happy medium' between drawing people's attention and getting people on campus to care about relevant issues and not being too divisive or aggressive about the movement."

"If our students will move to organize around a topic, which is close to their hearts, and mobilize to bring change, this conference's impact will last for a long, long time," Mayer said. "Wouldn't that be the ultimate success?"

With youth-driven activism sweeping the globe, it is likely that the success Mayer speaks of and the intention of the conference — to provide students with the opportunity to reflect on how to "affect and support change in the real world" — is well on its way to being realized.

Alums See Architecture Differently

By Addis Fouché-Channer

In the world of architecture, three alumni of the College see things differently.

"When most people think about virtual reality goggles, they imagine the technology from the '90s. Back then if you put those on you'd be immobile, dizzy, and eventually start puking. IrisVR is ten thousand steps above that," explains Amr Thameen '14, a 3D artist/designer at IrisVR, a Burlington-based company that is revolutionizing architecture design.

Founded by Shane Scranton '13 and Nate Beatty '14.5 in 2014, IrisVR uses virtual reality goggles intended for video games to allow architects to see and explore models of their work.

Starting the operation involved making connections, bonding with mentors and raising money until a major donor gave them thousands of dollars to begin their project. About a year ago, Scranton and Beatty got their hands on the Oculus Rift, the technology that would be to their entire operation. Valued at around \$350, this goggle-like gadget allows Scranton's computer program skills and Beatty's designs to come to life: the wearer is actually able to view things true-to-size and virtually experience walking through the building. The viewer is visually transported to another place.

Using lenses in the screen that warp the image as it is projected, Oculus Rift provides the viewer a constant stream of vision into another world. The immersive technology is now much safer, cheaper and technologically-advanced than the version from the 1990s that made users physically ill and cost over \$40,000.

"The first virtual reality model that I made was a model of the house I grew up in, and [I] thought: 'Let me make a little video game out of the Oculus Rift and out of this model,'" said Beatty while showcasing the black and white footage during a TED Talk at the College in November 2014. "It tracked my head movements as I walked through the space. It is the inside of my house. It's untex-

tured, the lighting is pretty bad, it's pixelated, and everything's essentially horrible about it, except for the fact that when I was in the goggles walking around the place, I really felt like I was standing in my house. I couldn't believe it! I was holding these goggles up to my face and I felt like I was home."

Although the virtual reality model of Beatty's house was relatively rough, others who viewed the house spoke of the "snow" outside of the house. Beatty and Scranton had not perfected the program to include existing weather patterns, but the white plane of nothingness outside of the house resembled a bed of fallen snow: the alternate reality was that convincing.

As of April 2014, the most recent version of Oculus Rift is now owned by Facebook, after the popular social media company bought the rights for \$2 billion. It has only been redesigned once fully, meaning that as the virtual reality technology grows and changes, so does IrisVR.

"The challenge is developing a software for a hardware that's not finished yet, so being prepared to pivot, change, and build on new information is a harsh reality," says Thameen.

The existing technology involves a lot of time-consuming importing and exporting of files, essentially creating a small video game out of each file. This process usually crashes a computer before it is even finished. Seeing huge opportunities in creating new software to fix a problem both gamers and architects could benefit from, Beatty and Scranton set out across the country to prove that they had what everyone needed. Huge architecture firms like Gensler and Perkins+Will met their enthusiasm with doubt, but that doubt turned into awe once the Oculus Rift goggles were put on. To match the demand for their

virtual reality software from the most powerful architecture companies in the world, Beatty and Scranton created a team to give the people what they wanted: the ability to virtually inhabit a space.

Now that they have a good amount of their software created, IrisVR has left the developing stage and entered the pacing stage, described by Scranton as "wondering when this company is going to take off and become the company instead of a company."

Scranton sees IrisVR being able to help in the film, education and theater industries, but as of now its impact on the world of architecture is more than enough. The alumni plan to use a perfectly sleek and easy-to-use iPhone headset to match their exist-

ing app, but their main goal is to improve the virtual reality technology. Beatty and Scranton's understanding of space and design has allowed them to create an innovative way of building, and in a society that is becoming rapidly more technology-reliant and technology-efficient, this can only mean good news.

"This company is always changing and shifting, so the future is really uncertain," Thameen said. "Will I even be here in four years? The industry is growing so fast!"

Thameen says that if he decides to leave IrisVR, he will certainly continue to pursue problem solving through design, and is still very much interested in the user experience. No other company in the world uses all three of those aspects in a more helpful or efficient way, so Thameen is likely to stay with the Burlington-based group unless another one comes along with something better. There is no way to predict IrisVR's success or failure; however, this company that is re-envisioning reality seems to have a lot of excitement to look forward to.

"When most people think about virtual reality goggles, they imagine the technology from the '90s. (...) IrisVR is ten thousand steps above that."

AMR THAMEEN '14

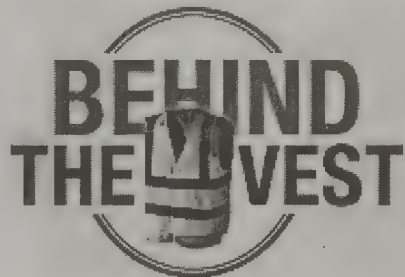
Gowen's Cafe Concoctions

By Josie Trichka

There is a consistent stream of people exiting and entering Wilson Café, but the one constant amongst all the hubbub is Elliot Gowen's cheerful presence. Wilson is a sort of safe haven; a place where the weary can come to wind down after a grueling day of work.

Gowen, a Middlebury native, has worked on and off for the College for 12 years. He has had numerous different jobs in the area, including managing a coffee shop in Brandon, cooking for Steve's Park Diner, working at various orchards and bartending. But, he is especially fond of working in Wilson Café.

"It's a nice environment to work in, and I



really like making coffee drinks," Gowen said. "The atmosphere is a lot better because you can talk to customers as they walk in."

Gowen usually arrives at the café at 2:30 p.m., when he and Lee, the daytime shift manager, have a half hour to touch base and make sure everything is stocked. Once things get going, though, Gowen said, "It's pretty much making sure things are running smoothly, making sure things are stocked up, and that [students] are happy when [they] come in. That's the important thing."

After he closes Wilson, Gowen has further duties to fulfill.

"I'm usually done at around 10:45, and then I go to McCardell Bicentennial Hall and close up the kiosk for them, and then after that I drive over to the Grille," he said. "It's nice to be able to walk in to another situation and be helpful, and try to make everyone else's job easier."

Business in McCardell Bicentennial Hall was initially slow. But according to Gowen, "It's been picking up there too, which is nice. I think people are starting to use that space more and realize that they can study there and still be able to get something to drink."

One of his main focuses since taking on his managerial position has been finding different ways to improve Wilson and better suit it to students' needs.

"I've been working on redoing some of



Behind-the-Vest columnist Josie Trichka '17 is greeted with a latte by Wilson Café manager and barista Elliot Gowen. Gowen has worked here for 12 years.

our recipes and making them easier for new student workers, and also working on some of the menu things," Gowen said. "We're trying to make it a better place every day, and I think we're doing a pretty good job with that. We've added a lot of things and we've expanded the menu a lot."

The café's menu, which I had found confusing in the past, is now a very nicely organized electronic board that is updated seasonally, as well as when new specials are introduced.

"One of the things I like to do on my down time is just experiment, and just make different drinks and see what we might want to do for new drink lines or new specials," Gowen said. "It's a good way to be creative, and you get to sample everything too, which is always an added benefit!"

After perusing the menu, I noted that it was surprisingly extensive, and that there were a multitude of drink possibilities, made up of different combinations of flavors, that the board could never hope to encompass.

"I usually have something different every day," he said. "Right now, my favorite one is probably mint matcha with a shot of espresso and a scoop of chocolate added to it, and it's pretty tasty actually. I haven't figured out what I want to name that yet, but it'll be a drink special coming up."

A lot of Gowen's job, too, is involved with training and supervising student workers.

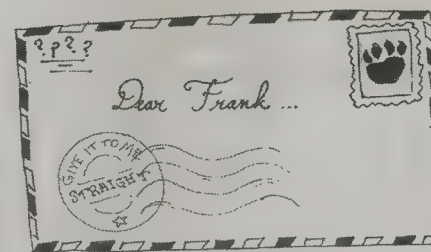
"I like the student workers, we have a good crew of people in here," he said. "To have a relationship where you actually get to know somebody more than just working [with them] is really nice. And this is, I think, one of the better environments for that as far as working with students on campus. You're right there and showing them hands-on things."

Gowen is extremely committed to making students' experiences in Wilson the best they can be, even syncing his schedule to fit the long hours of work that accompany finals week.

"During midterms and finals, we'll try to stay open later if we can. For the fall semester, we were open until midnight, and spring semester last year I came in at 6 p.m. and worked until 6 a.m., and then we worked from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. — [pulling two 12-hour shifts.] It's nice to be able to give back like that."

Perhaps most representative of Gowen's passion for his work is the ways in which he interacts with his regular customers.

"It's fun just making people's days," he said. "When I see someone walking down the hill, and I know what they're going to get, I start making their drink. To just having them walk in and being able to hand it to them, it's just nice. I like making people happy."



By Frank

Give it To Me Straight is a new column in the Campus where I, Frank, will be answering questions from students about life at Middlebury, inside and out of the classroom. Quick disclaimer: I have no official qualifications, so you're well within your rights to consider my advice with the same suspicion you would view that of a complete stranger. That said, I have spent almost four years here at Midd, and I've lived, studied and worked around the world with many different kinds of people. If you've been looking for some impartial guidance or just have a random question about life at Midd, then go/advice to make your anonymous submission.

Reader Submission: "My roommate has been having many emotional issues recently and always likes to talk to me about her problems. While I want to help her, her constant complaints, however, are making me feel unhappy and burdened. How do I balance helping my friend and protect my own emotional well-being?"

Frank: This is difficult to answer without a little more information. Is your friend complaining about 'normal' things, or does she have more sinister problems that are beyond your ability to resolve? Is your friend taking advantage of the kind and empathetic ear that you've been lending her? And an introspective one for you — are there things in your life that prevent you from supporting your friend?

Life at Middlebury is not easy on our mental health, and while projects like Resilience have helped to break the silence over issues like depression and anxiety, most people have difficulty discussing them. We all have different thresholds for the information we share and with whom we trust to share it, and you might be a lifeline for your roommate. If you're noticing any signs of severe mood swings, appetite changes or anything else out of the ordinary, then talk to your dean, a trusted professor, your FYC, etc. They can help determine what further resources, if any, she needs. That said, this is a small campus, and there's definitely a line between confirming your suspicions with a mutual best friend and spreading an unfounded rumor. Take care you don't cross it.

At the other end of the spectrum, your friend may be abusing your generosity of time and spirit. The fact that you're asking this question makes it quite clear that you genuinely care for your friend and her well-being, but you're of no use to her, yourself, or anyone else if your empathy turns to resentment or melancholy. If you're sure that nothing serious is wrong, then use your judgement to control the amount of time you spend together. Go to a different dining hall or study space, or encourage her to volunteer or join a club, which will get her out of your room and might give her some perspective on her emotional problems. Depending on your comfort with the relationship, you could also try unloading a barrage of your recent emotional problems and seeing how she reacts.

The best long-term solution for this dilemma is for the two of you to have a frank discussion regarding your mutual expectations for the relationship. For example, if she can complain ad nauseam to you, then the reciprocal ought to be true as well. This might seem intimidating, and it's probably not worth doing if you're not invested in having a long-term relationship with her. Ultimately, however, it will give both of you a far more satisfying and successful friendship.

Figures of Speech: Debate Society

By Jericca Davy

While the Middlebury girls' soccer team makes it to Nationals and our football team wins NESCACs, Middlebury's Debate Society has been quietly forging its own path of success. Coming up on its 100-year anniversary, the team has seen an unprecedented level of achievement, competing in tournaments around the country and the world, and for the first time in their history, they are ranked 15th in the country and 57th in the world — out of over 300 teams.

Middlebury and other college teams across the nation compete according to the American Parliamentary Debate Association's (APDA) style. They participate in a type of debate known as Parliamentary Debate, which APDA's website describes as "an off-topic, extemporaneous form of competitive debate ... the format pits two two-person teams against each other in a contest of argument, wit and rhetoric which roughly simulates debate in a House of Parliament."

This means that the Middlebury team pairs its debaters up, and they compete together almost every weekend from September to April.

"On a weekly basis, we go to Yale and other tournaments in the Northeast. This year, we competed in England and Malaysia," Debate Society President James Callison '17.5 said. "And we're going to Greece next year."

For a long time, Debate's membership remained around 10. As you can imagine, this makes weekly trips difficult, considering they like to take about 8 people, or 4 pairs, to each conference. But times are changing.

Debate Team Captain Frank Wyer '15 attributes their recent success to the new first-years and sophomore Febs, who have tripled the team size from 10 to 30 and have made Middlebury the largest team in the NESCACs.

"This is the biggest team we've ever had, and freshmen have definitely driven the success of the team," Wyer said.

For the first time in their history, a team of two speakers, President Callison and Nate Rifkin '15, placed 1st at a meet at Mt. Holyoke, and are ranked 18th as a pair in national rankings. Most remarkably, Noah Liebman '17.5 sits as the top-ranked Novice debater in the nation, in effect Middlebury's Rookie of the Year. Last weekend, Debate Society competed at Yale, with several individuals and teams placing in the Top 20 in final rankings.

Indeed, it seems that the Debate Society's success has snuck under our noses and almost under theirs as well. Many of its members have never participated in a debate before coming to the College, and have to start from scratch.

"You have to sort of jump in," Elana Feldman '17.5 said. "We really encourage people to go to tournaments and just start speaking."

And though jumping right in, Debate agrees, is the best way to get someone good at the skill, the new school year has also brought changes to their training.

"In years past, we predominantly didn't really focus on training. But we've started to focus more on training novices and making sure everyone has a good foundation," President Callison said.

"We do exercises that help us with argument building, arguments that help us rhetorically, how we speak. We also do practice rounds, just to get into it," Feldman said.

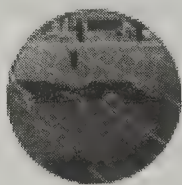
Going forward, Middlebury Debate Society would like to continue its success, mainly by doing what has worked this year, as well as adding on a few things. One of its main goals for the future is getting more people to join and remain big players for the team. The time commitment can be a bit overwhelming, and some members remain on the fringes.



Members of the debate team rejoice in their victories after a debate tournament.

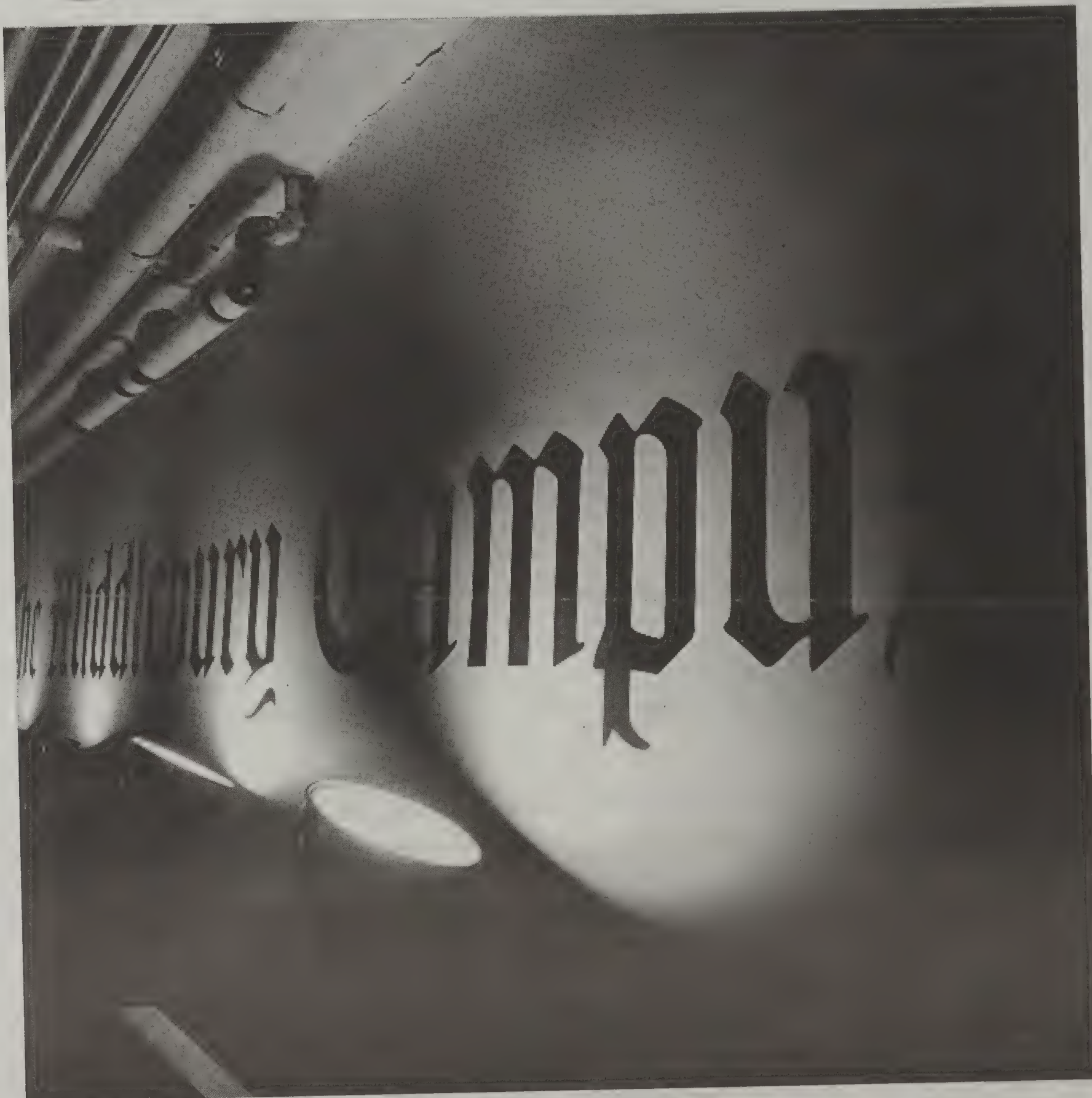


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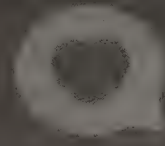
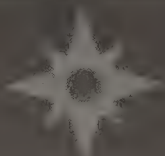
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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

BiHall Microscope Valuable to All

By Asa Julien

Last year, the College's geology department unveiled a new Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM), a high performance machine capable of advanced imaging and analysis at very fine levels. The machine boasts an impressive array of features that include three-dimensional imaging as well as the chemical analysis of a sample down to the element. It is available to all departments of the school, and to researchers from around Vermont, yet rarely does anyone outside of the geology department use it.

The magnifying power of traditional light microscopes, just like the ones you used in high school biology, pales in comparison to the SEM. Compound light microscopes are only capable of magnifying a sample to 1,000 times its normal size, and the image appears flat. The SEM at the College, on the other hand, has a maximum magnification of well over 100,000.

Not only is the power of magnification significantly greater, but the resolution of the SEM is unparalleled, unmatched by compound light microscopes. Even at equivalent magnifications, images generated by the SEM are in far greater detail and allow researchers to examine fine microstructures that otherwise would never be discernible.

How, then, does a SEM work, and

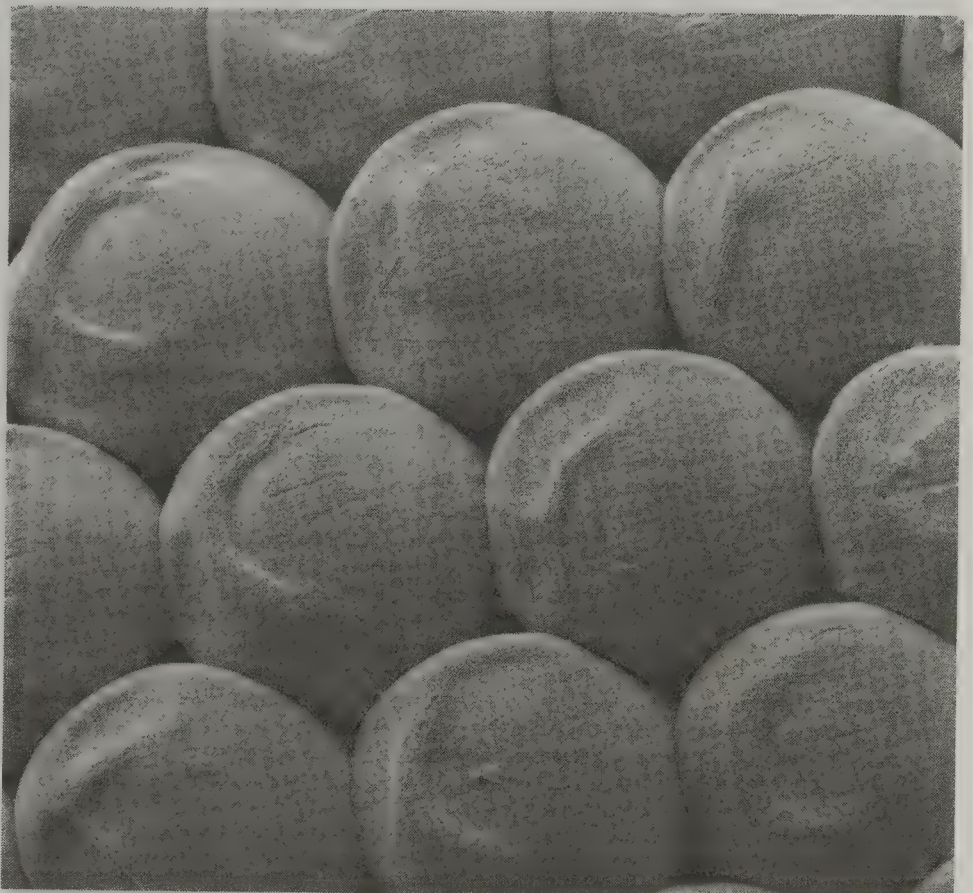
why is it capable of much greater magnification and resolution than a traditional light microscope? In a SEM, rather than using light, a high-energy beam of electrons is directed through a series of electromagnetic fields and lenses and focused onto the sample, such as a sliver of rock or a small marine shrimp. The use of electrons, which have a much shorter wavelength than light in the visible spectrum, gets around some of the limitations that traditional microscopes

have in resolving an image. The beam excites the sample, causing it to emit signals such as electrons and X-rays.

Detectors use these emitted signals to relay the information to a computer, which constructs an image. The beam allows for a continuous scan of

the sample capable of detecting minute topographical features, and the emission of characteristic X-rays allows for elemental analysis. The end result is somewhat otherworldly: sleek images peppered with details that look almost too realistic.

The geology department already makes good use of the SEM. Geology students often use the microscope to determine the chemical composition of rock samples. The SEM can detect individual elements and generate colored images illustrating how they are layered in the formation of the rock. This chemical detection can be used in all sorts of



COURTESY JODY SMITH

The Scanning Electron Microscope can magnify the receptors of this compound eye.

studies, such as those dealing with the origins of groundwater contamination or those looking at how certain types of rocks form.

In biology, the imaging capabilities allow for analysis of morphological features that can be used to identify tiny creatures, from insects to bacteria. SEMs are also used quite frequently in forensics, as well as in nanotechnology industries.

But the applications go beyond the

sciences, and Professor of Geology David West wants to encourage non-science majors to find ways of incorporating the SEM into their work. Any work that deals with small material or with chemical composition can benefit from a SEM. Art history majors, for instance, can use the chemical analysis capabilities to identify the origins of paintings by looking at the composition of the dyes and paints. Artists themselves, especially photographers, can explore a whole new world of creativity – even on a microscopic level, there are beautiful still-life arrangements (look up some examples by searching 'snowflake crystal SEM').

But most students have not yet taken advantage of the SEM. Though several different classes incorporate the SEM into their curriculum, only one non-geology course makes use of it: students of Invertebrate Biology look at the fine hair-like structures on scorpion legs. Only geology students use the SEM for independent work, as their senior theses require them to do so. Given the small slice of the student body that actually uses the SEM, it is frequently available for use.

It appears that the only students that use the SEM are the ones who are told about and who are required use it. It was never the intention of the geology department to make it an exclusive and mysterious resource. In their grant application, the College emphasized that they wanted to make it available to students of all disciplines, including non-science majors, as well as for aid in any research in the state of Vermont.

The SEM is a hidden gem of BiHall. It is an incredible machine that is underused. It may take some creativity to figure out how to work something like this into some independent projects, but for many disciplines it is a resource that can easily open up new doors.

It is not difficult to set up an appointment – just contact David West or Jody Smith, the resident experts on SEM use.



COURTESY JODY SMITH

Middlebury's SEM is capable of magnifying samples, such as these grains of pollen, to well over 100,000 times their original size.

**DON'T
MISS
THIS**

Something in the Air

This film is a vibrantly crafted story of a young man's artistic awakening in the politically turbulent and increasingly dangerous French student movement of the late '60s and early '70s.

2/28, 3:00 P.M. & 8:00 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

Comparing Dances in the Nile Region

Dr. Sylvia Nannyonga-Tamusuza, Associate Professor of Music at Makerere University (Uganda), will explore aspects of music and dance from cultures in the Nile basin and how they benefit from and are shaped by the resources of the Nile.

3/3, 4:30 PM, MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ROOM 221

Master Class with Johari Mayfield

Johari Mayfield is a choreographer and performer who describes her eclectic enclave of dance, theatre, music and digital media as "double dutch, meeting Martha Graham, meeting African dance, meeting Edgar Allan Poe, meeting beatboxing."

3/3, 4:30 PM, MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ROOM 110

Street Art Exhibit Prompts Discussion



COURTESY RIAN FINE

Now a feature of the Middlebury College Museum of Art Street Art Exhibit, Retna and El Mac's collaborative piece "The Conductor" originated as a 40-foot mural in Miami.

By Arnav Adhikari

It's hard to shake the nagging paradox that seems to be spray-painted all over the upstairs gallery space at the Middlebury College Museum of Art's Street Art Exhibit. Even if your experience with street art as a form of sociopolitical discourse is minimal, it is likely you have either heard of or come across the works of artists such as Banksy and Shepherd Faery, now more notorious for their merchandise than for their original urban artistic identities. Faery, who gained much of his fame from his iconic OBEY motif that you now see spattered across hats and t-shirts, held a retrospective at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston in 2009. Banksy, perhaps the most popular name in street art today, is an industry on his own. His net worth is in the millions, his prints sell within seconds online and he has even been nominated for an Oscar.

The basic question then begs: can street art ever really be street art if it fails to exist in the street? How can we step inside the often academic, systemic space of a museum and engage with work that is so grounded in its foundation of rebellion against the very same principles? To put art that has gained its popularity from the neighborhoods, walls, streets and masses that define it into a somewhat colorless space is to render it toothless. While Museum of Art Curator Emmie Donadio and Preparator

Chris Murray provided a background of the history and techniques of street art in their opening lecture, which certainly prompts further discussion about artistic work not usually acknowledged by the establishment, what I felt was lacking was a discussion on how alienated these works seem in their decontextualized, poster-like display.

Take, for example, "The Conductor," a collaborative piece by Retna and El Mac, which fuses calligraphy and brushwork with aerosol paint spray to create a dynamic, intricate effect of gradient and contours. The only real problem is that the original work is in fact a 40-foot mural, and not a meager framed print. This is the same difficulty that affects the work of Swoon, an artist who integrates contemporary consciousness with the visceral, physical presence of her pieces, using everything from pavements and fire escapes to rafts made out of New York City's garbage as her medium. Even the attempt to furnish a rundown-looking wall in the corner of the gallery space with wheatpaste prints, to perhaps engender a sense of what they would really look like if you passed by them in a Brooklyn neighborhood, is an effort to provide context where it is severely lacking. The questions of the modern fetishization of art, commodity culture and gentrification that are so integral to street art culture all remain unanswered and avoided in this exhibition. The War-

hol exhibit downstairs now seems to make a lot more sense.

While the reality of the urban sprawl is ultimately inseparable from the work of the art itself, the exhibition does nevertheless provide a platform for this important debate. It also perhaps opens a window into a world of some prominent names in street art for the previously unacquainted – a foothold into the overarching problem.

Judith Supine's collages, bursting with brilliant fluorescent greens and pinks, are reminiscent of some hazy, seductive, pop-art acid trip; *Muto*, a stop-motion film of a graffiti project by enigmatic Italian artist Blu, is particularly remarkable in how grossly ambitious, irreverent and wildly fun it is. There is also a playful installation by French photographer JR composed of a series of enlarged black and white portrait pictures featuring Middlebury students that run along the floor and wall.

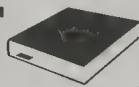
While it may be difficult to peer through the haze of commodification and the burgeoning celebrity business model that have come to define Banksy and Shepard Faery, their prints are still important for the waves they created, the impact they had on bringing street art to the masses (if it wasn't already meant for that in the first place) and for the images they depict. Banksy's "Girl With Balloon" is still inspiring in its simplicity of color and poignant illustration of a young girl

watching her heart-shaped balloon slip away from her. Faery's political posters, including the famous three-toned "Hope" (the face of Obama's 2008 presidential campaign), are still important markers for the histories they were created to depict.

The street art exhibit does diversify the Museum collection, and many of the prints on display have been permanently acquired by the College thanks to the curators' persistence with navigating the online market platform that most of these artists now work through. However, no matter how technically intriguing the art may be, it is ultimately difficult to reconcile crossing one's arms to look at work that is native to the street while it is mounted, framed and hung up in a gallery space. Perhaps more visual and cultural information on the original presentation of the art would have been helpful in understanding the context in which it was conceived. It is intriguing to come away wondering whether an attempt to bring in the street at all is not simultaneously one that mutes it completely.

The "Outside In: Art of the Street" exhibition is open until April 19 at the Middlebury College Museum of Art. Entry is free. There is also a film screening of *Style Wars*, a documentary about the New York graffiti movement of the '70s and '80s, followed by a Q&A with director Henry Chalfant on March 5 in Dana Auditorium.

BOOKING IT



BY GABRIELLE OWENS

Impressive archery is a frequent "wow" factor for the big screen. From Robin Hood to Legolas to Hawkeye, masters of this highly specialized weapon intrigue and entertain us, providing the opportunity for diverse and pretty badass fight choreography. In Bernard Cornwell's book *The Archer's Tale*, the real, historical archery masters come to life in a vivid, bloody painting.

Set in 14th century England and France, *The Archer's Tale* follows the story of a young man named Thomas who joins the English army to seek revenge on the French after his town is raided, leaving him the only survivor. Thomas is one of the infamous English archers who use longbows, a far more deadly weapon than the crossbows used in France and the rest of Europe, and one of the biggest reasons England posed a major threat to France. They are known as the "devil's horsemen" and are hated throughout France for the destruction they wreak on the countryside. Cornwell successfully evokes the dark reality of medieval warfare. Although the protagonists and narrative are fictional, most of the battles are lifted directly from history, making the backdrop to the action highly realistic. Cornwell does not romanticize the events, or shy away from the raping, burn-

ing, pillaging and slaughter that occurs. Yet he manages to make the characters who commit these horrors lively and enjoyable so that you root for them. They are not simply faceless monsters, although they are sometimes not especially well-developed. He does not demonize the French or the English. It is often jarring, in fact, to be reminded that these characters whose witty banter you enjoy on one page destroy dozens of people's lives on the next.

Even Thomas, though he is presented as somewhat more restrained and level-headed in the violence relative to other characters and he is never explicitly identified as a rapist, is capable of his own fair share of pillaging, drunkenness, blasphemy and even cold-blooded murder. Though uncomfortable for a reader searching for good-at-heart protagonists, these characters would be unbelievable and unrealistic if they were written any other way. It would also be as bad and boring as a formulaic genre novel. Presenting the people committing the atrocities of war as the human beings that they are, no matter how violent and awful, is not only necessary for

the accuracy of the story, but also a thought-provoking exercise important to every part of human history, including today.

One of the most impressive elements of the novel is Cornwell's obviously extensive research. The battles and other major events involving more characters than just the protagonist are almost all based in historical fact. He also spends a great deal of time discussing the mechanics of archery. Although most of it is relevant, it could probably have been condensed, and certainly the level of detail included is not necessary to understanding the plot.

The text occasionally gets lost in a technical tangent. It is a fantastic mini-history lesson on archery, if that intrigues you, but would probably seem boring to someone uninterested in the subject. Since the story is so strongly rooted in historical events and the importance of the longbow, I would not recommend it for someone who does not care for historical fiction. It does not require any particular foreknowledge of 14th century history to enjoy the book, but it is certainly more enjoyable if you have at least a vague interest in the era.

Something I particularly enjoyed in this novel was Thomas's attitude as the protagonist. A major part of the plot is his promise to his dying father that he will recover a relic stolen from the church when their town was raided by the French. Despite this vow and the recurring instance of every other father or mentor figure reminding him he has a destiny to fulfill, Thomas remains reluctant and vaguely annoyed at the whole situation. He is not angry or upset about being "chosen," he just genuinely does not care and wishes other people would stop badgering him about it. Although his "destiny" does play a role throughout the novel and form part of the climax, Cornwell allows the novel to make fun of itself and subvert the weary Destiny trope, at least a little bit.

The Archer's Tale offers a wonderfully detailed glimpse into the life of a 14th century English longbow archer. It is a bloody, dramatic story all the more interesting for being rooted in historical fact. Although it is probably not going to win many awards for literary value, the book is a page-turner. It is well-paced and occasionally shocking, with colorful characters and an engaging plotline. The research and commitment to accuracy is truly outstanding. Ultimately, it is a fun story with a history lesson on the side that is well worth the read.

THE ARCHER'S TALE BY BERNARD CORNWELL

DANCE SPOTLIGHT: FACULTY CONCERT

By Mandy Kimm

What exactly do professors do when they teach? Are they communicating some aspect of their experience — sharing some of their knowledge or perspective with students? Or are they laying bare their personal investigative process and human experience for all to see? The dance department this week presents four faculty members engaging in the latter, showing their individual and collaborative artistic work in the Faculty Dance Concert this Thursday, Feb. 26, at 8 p.m. in the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts (MCA) Dance Theatre.

While students mainly engage with professors in the classroom setting, faculty are deeply immersed in their fields

of study and continue to develop their research and work as they teach. This is especially so in the dance department, where professors interweave their teaching role into their lives as actively creating artists.

"Particularly with professors in the arts, it's easy to lose track of the fact that we also are artists and choreographers working with our own creative process — and we're here also to share that knowledge with students. When it comes to making art, there's no answer, no right or wrong way to do it. The faculty concert allows us to be part of that dialogue, to say we're also researching these ideas and dealing with these difficult practices and questions," Artist in Residence Scotty

Hardwig said.

This performance will be the first faculty concert the department has held in over a decade, and will provide the new artists on the faculty this year the opportunity to share their personal creative research with the campus community. As the dance department makes the transition correlating with the retirement of two long-time faculty members, Andrea Olsen and Penny Campbell, the new faculty members' artistic visions and interests are driving the direction of development for the dance program.

The concert also affords students the experience of working with professional dance artists — Meredith White '16 will perform the premiere of "In Plain Sight"

choreographed by Chair of the Dance Department Christal Brown, and Andrew Pester '17 and Naomi Eisenberg '18 will perform in Scotty Hardwig's work created in collaboration with visual artist Kern Samuel. Assistant Professor of Dance Tzveta Kassabova will present her work "Little is left to tell," performed by Emmakate Geisdorf, Joey Loto, and Lacey Moore, and Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance Trebien Pollard will perform the excerpt "Shaking the Devil: the black swan effect" from his solo concert "Seeing the Unspeakable" which will premiere at Middlebury on April 2.

As students participate in and witness the creative processes of the faculty members they work with, the perspective arises that while we are students of our respective disciplines learning from professors with more experience in a field, we are also all curious human beings trying to understand our world through various lenses, disciplines and expressive practices. In this endeavor the line between the professor and the student — the teacher and the taught — blurs.

In the field of dance this is particularly evident because of the physical in-the-moment presence of performance.

"With dance, where the body is being made so public, there's the vulnerability of displaying your craft so openly — there's no barrier of language or scholarship or publication — it's just you," Hardwig said.

Professors Brown, Hardwig and Pollard will dance in the concert with all the vulnerability, honesty and openness of artistic performance.

One of the fundamental unifying qualities of dance as an expressive and investigative art form is the physical, bodily experience that we all share. Regardless of how we intellectually analyze or understand a dance piece, as audience members we physically experience the presence of other human beings expressing an aspect of their humanity, and that alone can deeply affect our perception of other people and their lives.

By presenting this performance, the dance department faculty members are inviting us into the physical expressive experience and into their lives as artists and educators in a way that is profoundly vulnerable, but also characteristic of art as a means of communicating experience and inviting connection.

"In the process of showing our creative research, we're placing our bodies for public witness," Hardwig said. "That's really powerful and crosses boundaries in a really amazing way."



COURTESY ALAN KIMURA DIXON

The work of Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance Trebien Pollard merges popular culture with the appetite of human experience.

THE REEL CRITIC

BY OAKLEY HAIGHT

The two primary characters of *Ida*, the most recent Polish language film from director Pawel Pawlikowski, appear to perfectly contradict each other. "The slut and the saint," says one of the two. On the eve of pledging her life to a Catholic monastery, Ida, an orphan approaching adulthood, is told by the elder sisters that she must meet her only surviving relative, an aunt named Wanda. They meet shyly, with empathy, following the expected behavior of two separated family members meeting for the first time. As Wanda flips through pictures of old family, Ida notices a boy next to her in an old photo and asks if she had a brother. Wanda smokes a cigarette and tells her, no, you were an only child.

It comes out slowly, and then faster: Ida is told that her dimples look like her mother's, that Wanda loved Ida's mother very much, that she was born a Jew in the Polish Holocaust and that this is the reason her family is dead. In a few moments, Ida gets a glimpse of all of the things she could have been and all of the things she might now become. It is then inevitable that Ida and Wanda take a road trip to their old family town to find their relatives' graves, and of course Ida and Wanda realize that the trip is direct exposure

to horrible truth. Wanda is weathered from trying to distance herself from her history, while Ida has been beautifully detached from it, a blank slate with a communal identity instead of a personal one. Is it better to know the tragedy, or not? On their trip, Ida tells Wanda that, no, she does not think about carnal love. Her aunt tells her that she should try, "otherwise what sort of sacrifice are those vows of yours?"

The reasons for their trip are 20 years old, but these events go unseen. Every movement in the film, both in plot and moment-to-moment interaction, is presented obliquely, referred to, but repressed and pushed away. *Ida* takes the oblique and the indirect as its primary subjects. It is impossible for *Ida*'s characters to directly confront their enormous history, but it is always present, hanging over Ida and Wanda, somehow contained in open fields and winter sky scenes — it is absolutely appropriate that the film's style mirrors the character's treatment of their lives. None of this makes *Ida* vague or rootless. It is impossibly clear what is going unsaid — it is something that can only conceivably be indirect.

In this way, *Ida*'s themes and aesthetics are inseparable. Wanda and Ida take a break on the road, eating donuts

on the hood of their car. The camera focuses strictly above the neck as the intimate specifics of their faces are contrasted against endless, open landscapes. Wanda, for example, wipes powdered sugar from her lips in the bottom fourth of the screen while telling Ida that she is not much these days, but once was a public prosecutor, sending enemies of socialism to their death — they called her "Red Wanda." Pictured behind her is a long barren road, which occupies much more of the screen than either of the characters.

These scenes of *Ida* exist regardless of whether its characters are present in them. People talk off screen and walk out of the frame without warning, and shots are held slightly longer than we expect. Paradoxically, this indirectness charges the film with energy: director Pawlikowski is a master of managing his narrative's timing and controlling tension. Near the film's end, the repressed tension literally explodes. Of course we do not actually see the explosion, but the viewer hears the thud of a body hitting pavement from afar, after a person walks out of a window and out of the audience's vantage-point in the shot.

We can probably say that *Ida* is about representing the Holocaust, and is conse-

quently a political film with strong political stances, but it feels unfair to squeeze it solely in any sort of category like this. At its core, it is a movie about people and situations. We do not know much about Ida or Wanda, but what we do have is unusual knowledge of their faces, their expressions and how they sit and behave. They feel like people, and the movie achieves that strange balance between personal realities and universal ones. What do you do with an altered knowledge of your past? How is it possible to reconcile it with the present, and does it change how you behave in the future? Is it better to have the burden of knowledge or innocence from it?

Ignore your apprehension to the deadly movie-critic adjectives attached to this kind of movie ("contemplative" or "ponderous," they might say). In that vein, you'd assume the Oscars to be a hilarious judge for black-and-white Polish movies, but good for *Ida*, winning the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film last week. Maybe more surprisingly, it was the rare foreign film nominated for Best Cinematography, as well. In truth, *Ida* is one of the best films at this year's Oscars, regardless of category. It runs a little under 90 minutes and it streams on Netflix. If you have 90 minutes for any movie tomorrow, give them to *Ida*.

Arts Spotlight: Performing Arts Series

By Connor Forrest

To quote my close friend and role model, Morgan Freeman: "You're going to relegate my history to a month?"

Black History Month is coming to a close, but the sentiment echos. You see, March is Women's History Month. While I feel obligated to divulge that I am not necessarily a woman, you get the point.

The next few weeks are a time to practice giving women their due diligence, to acknowledge the far-reaching contributions women have made and just how hard it has been to make them. We are ever closer to an egalitarian world, but as many will tell you, there is still much to be done.

Along that vein, the Middlebury College Dance Program has programmed a week of Women in Dance that promises incredible insight into the past, present and future of women in the art. Movement company Camille A. Brown & Dancers will headline with performances of "BLACK GIRL: Linguistic Play" on March 3-4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts (MCA).

The piece traces the complexities of carving a positive identity as a black female in urban American culture. It combines a rich history and musicology with the magical imagery of *Alice in Wonderland* to offer a grand narrative reflecting on feminism, patriarchy and women's roles within this world.

In addition to intriguing performances by Camille A. Brown & Dancers, each day of the week offers a master class with a different world-class dancer as well as performances of "Sola" Friday and Saturday night at 8:00 p.m. at the MCA.

Stemming from her background as a clarinetist, Bessie award-winning choreographer Camille Brown creates pieces that utilize musical composition as storytelling, investigate the silent space within measures and filling it with mesmerizing movement.

Not only is Brown a prodigious choreog-

rapher and dancer, she was recently named a TED fellow, making her one of 40 innovators and trailblazers chosen this year to present at the 2015 conference in Vancouver, Canada. In fact, this honor necessitated the rescheduling of her Middlebury performances from the previously announced dates of March 16-17 to the new dates of March 3-4.

In "BLACK GIRL: Linguistic Play," Brown explores a world where black women are often portrayed solely in terms of their strength, resiliency or trauma. Brown responds with a fuller spectrum of the black female.

To demonstrate the complexity of a racially and politically charged culture, the work uses African-American social dancing, rhythmic play and musical compositions that better illustrate who "black girl" knows herself to be.

Brown will share the stage with three emerging African-American choreographers, whose works will appear on the second half of the program. Denae Hannah is a comedian, a consultant and the CEO of the dance and comedy collective DNA Comedy. Johari Mayfield is a choreographer and performer who describes her eclectic work as "double Dutch, meeting Martha Graham, meeting African dance, meeting Edgar Allan Poe, meeting beatboxing." Admittedly, I am not entirely sure what that means, but it sounds incredible. The third choreographer, Afaliah Tribune, is a rapper, singer and songwriter who has toured with Rennie Harris Puremovement, Bebe Miller and VOICES, created by Middlebury's own Philip Hamilton '82.

The March 3-4 performances are only two pieces of Middlebury's week of Women in Dance. Each day of the week offers a master class with a different dancer, open to all students. Then, on March 6-7, Middlebury will present "Sola," an evening of solo dances choreographed for and by women. Curated by University of South Florida (USF) assistant professor Andee Scott, the

performances will showcase the work of choreographers from around the country, including Amy Chavasse (Michigan), Tzveta Kassabova (Vermont), Pam Pietro (New York), Mary Williford-Shade (Texas) and Bliss Kohlmyer (Florida).

"Sola" is the inaugural performance produced by Dance Linkages, a new organization created by Scott to build a contemporary network of artists connecting within and across disciplines to develop and perform new work.

The performance premiered in Tampa, Florida in August. The subsequent tour includes stops in Texas, Michigan, New York, and Vermont.

Camille A. Brown and Dancers will pres-

ent "BLACK GIRL: Linguistic Play" on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 3 and 4, at 7:30 PM each evening. Tickets are \$20 for the general public; \$15 for Middlebury College faculty, staff, alumni, and emeriti; and \$6 for Middlebury College students.

Performances of "Sola" will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 6 and 7, 2015, at 8:00 P.M. each evening. Tickets for "Sola" are \$12 for the general public; \$10 for Middlebury College faculty, staff, alumni, and emeriti; and \$6 for Middlebury College students. Both events will take place in MCA Dance Theatre.

Visit go/boxoffice or stop by the office in McCullough or the MCA.



COURTESY, MATT KAHAN

Camille A. Brown & Dancers will headline the week of Women in Dance March 3-4.

WANT A PIECE OF THE ACTION?

The Middlebury Campus is seeking new writers for the fall semester. Writers are needed in the following sections:



To express interest, please send an email to campus@middlebury.edu detailing the section(s) for which you'd like to write. Please also feel free to tell us your favorite Pokémon so we can get to know you better!

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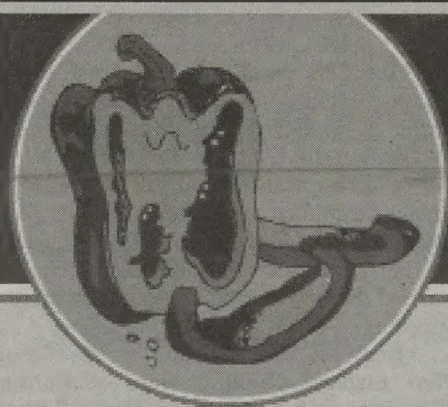
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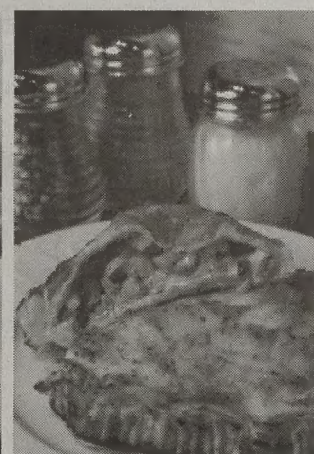
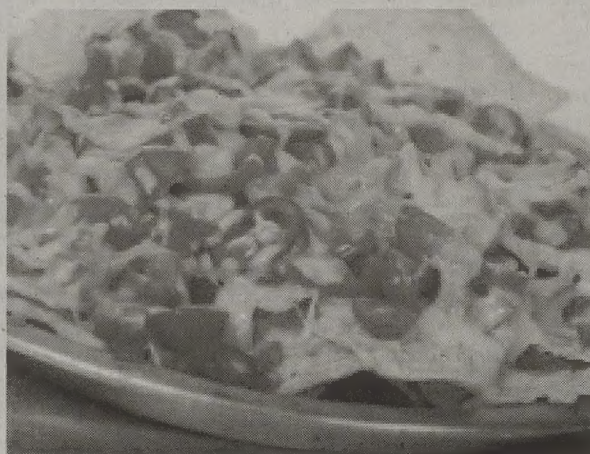
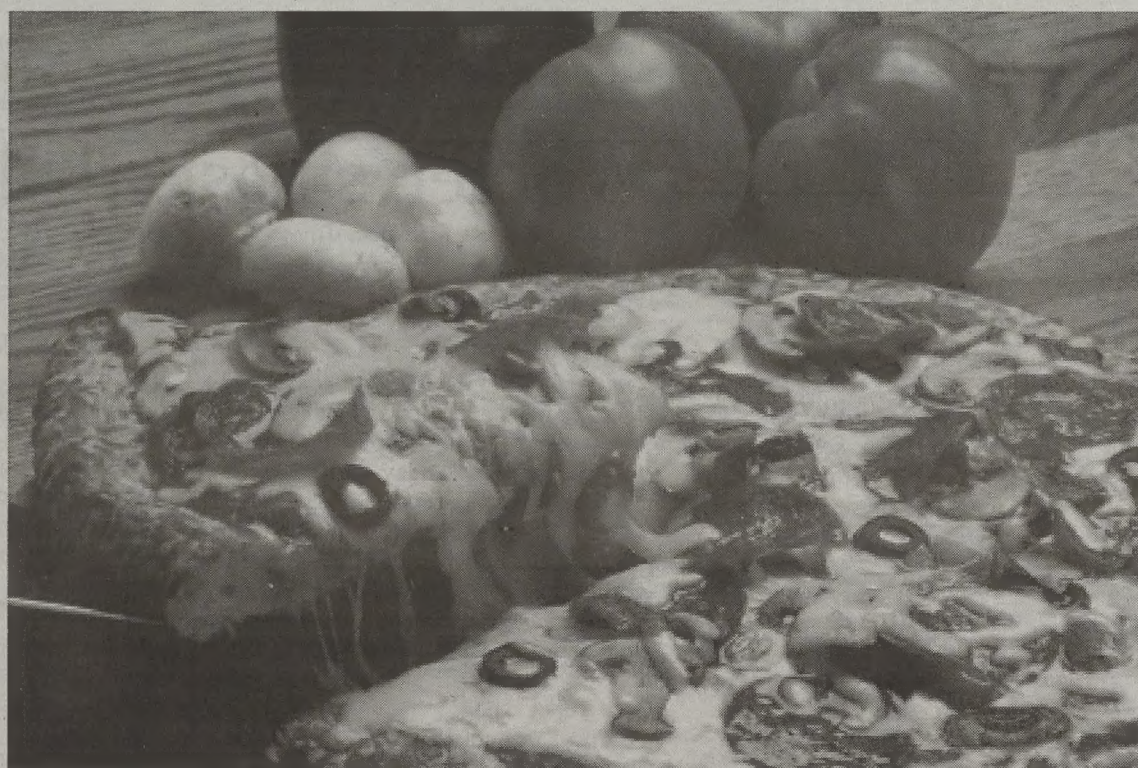


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Men's Hockey Enters into Postseason

By Charlie Ascher

The Middlebury men's hockey team finished the regular season by going .500 in back-to-back away NESCAC games. The Panthers were shut out by 10th-ranked Amherst 4-0 on Friday, Feb. 20 and then turned around to beat Hamilton 3-1. Middlebury's final regular season record sits at 10-11-3 and 7-8-3 in the NESCAC, putting them in the seventh seed for the NESCAC playoffs.

The Panthers drew a tough matchup for the first game of the crucial final regular-season weekend as they were tasked with playing the Lord Jeffs on the road.

Amherst scored the first goal of the game 9:32 in and did not look back. Amherst's goalie made several incredible saves to keep the Panthers off of the scoreboard. It was 2-0 Amherst at the end of the second as the Jeffs got another puck past Middlebury goaltender Stephen Klein '18. One minute into the third Amherst struck again, prompting Middlebury Head Coach Bill Beaney to pull Klein in favor of Mike Peters '15.

Despite some good pressure in the third, Middlebury was unable to get on the

scoreboard while Amherst notched one more goal to make it a 4-0 final score. Middlebury was unable to convert on five power play opportunities in the game and were outshot 28 to 25.

After the difficult loss to Amherst the Panthers traveled to Clinton, NY for a 3:00 p.m. faceoff against Hamilton on Saturday. The game against Hamilton started off much better for Middlebury. The Panthers were able to put on sustained pressure in the Hamilton zone and finally broke through on the power play 13:20 into the first period. After the Hamilton goaltender stopped a long shot from Terrance Goguen '16, Brendan McGovern '16 managed to scoop up the rebound and slip it inside the near post. The goal was the first Middlebury goal of the weekend and the start of a very good night for McGovern.

Hamilton equalized 6:10 into the second period as they got a shot past Middlebury goaltender Liam Moorfield-Yee '16. Middlebury continued to press after the Hamilton equalizer and were rewarded with two McGovern goals in a two-minute span. McGovern hounded the slot area and was

rewarded when he picked up rebounds off of Evan Neugold '16 and Jake Charles '16 shots and put both away, one at the 11:23 mark of the second and the next at the 13:13 mark to complete the hat trick and double his season goal total.

16:13 into the second a bit of a tussle occurred as both Cameron Romoff '17 and a Hamilton player were sent off with game misconducts for facemasking. The Middlebury penalty kill was strong all game as they killed off all six Hamilton power plays. The Panthers were able to hold on for the 3-1 win as Moorfield-Yee picked up his second win of the season despite having to be replaced by Peters a little more than halfway through the second period.

With their final regular season record of 10-11-3, the Panthers have secured the seventh seed in the NESCAC playoffs. Middlebury now faces the tough task of playing the same Amherst team that just beat them 4-0, this time in an away quarterfinal matchup on Saturday, Feb. 28.

McGovern commented on the team's prospects in the Amherst game.

"We need to go over the video from [this

past weekend's] game," McGovern said. "This will definitely bring to light some of the issues we had. I'm sure we'll see a lot of uncharacteristically bad plays. We need to play a smarter game with more energy. Fortunately, we have a week to correct those issues."

BY THE NUMB3RS

110

Seconds separating two Brendan McGovern '16 goals in men's hockey's victory over Hamilton.

Mile time for Alison Maxwell '15 at the DIII New England Championships, the second fastest time currently in DIII.

4:53.63

1 Sets lost apiece by Will Hanley '15 and David Cromwell '16 during the team's three matches at the CSA Team Championships.

Number of school records broken by Middlebury at the NESCAC swimming & diving championships.

3

6th Double-Double of the season for Elizabeth Knox '17, as Middlebury ended their season with a loss to Bowdoin.

Track on Pace with D-III Competition at New Englands

By Bryan Holtzman

The track teams began their postseasons this past weekend, competing in the New England Division III Championships. The men and women's meets are contested at different facilities; this year, both teams were in Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley, with the men competing at Springfield College while the women were hosted by Smith College. The men's team finished in 17th place with 14 points and the women took home 7th place by scoring 47 points. MIT was crowned team champion for both genders.

The mile run was the highlight for the men. Sam Cartwright '16 secured all-New England honors with a fifth place finish in a time of 4:19.57. Wilder Schaaf '14.5 was not far behind, crossing the line in seventh with 4:21.65. In the 5000m run, Kevin Wood '15 finished sixth by running 15:08.

On the infield, Taylor Shortleeve '15 missed making the final in the 60m hurdles by 0.01 seconds, completing the race in 8.58

seconds. Jared Whitman '17 set an indoor personal best in the pole vault by clearing 4.05m (13'3.5"), good enough for a five-way tie for 11th. Teammate Conor Simons '16 was also a part of that tie by clearing the same height. In the shot put, Danny Plunkett '16 scored a point with an 8th place finish by launching the shot 14.03m (46'0.5").

The women kicked off their meet on Friday, Feb. 20, by placing two athletes in the top 8 in the pentathlon. Hannah Blackburn '17 broke Maddie Pronovost's '17 school record by a mere four points, scoring 2901 points for a 5th place finish. Pronovost was only slightly off her previous best of 2897 points, this time scoring 2870 points to finish 7th.

The next day, Saturday, Feb. 21, was time for the Middlebury distance women to shine. The women were successful in the mile; Alison Maxwell '15 finished runner-up to Maryann Gong of MIT by running 4:53.63 to

Gong's 4:51.12. Their times are currently the two fastest in Division III. Summer Spillane '15 finished third by running 4:59.62, which ranks her ninth in Division III after track

"I was hoping to out kick her in the last lap, but that's when she finally shook me off and gained that two seconds on me."

ALISON MAXWELL '15

she finally shook me off and gained that two seconds on me."

The quartet of milers was not finished; several hours later, the four teamed up to race the 4x800m relay and took 2nd place to

Wesleyan with a time of 9:30.21.

"It was a pretty fun team, because since we had all had great races already, we weren't feeling too much pressure for the relay," Maxwell said. "But at the same time, we were in the slow heat because we were entered with No Time and still wanted to place overall, so we were kind of chasing the imagined leaders of the fast heat, which ran after us."

Elsewhere on the track, Adrian Walsh '16 was runner-up in the 5000m by running 17:24, a time currently ranking her 11th in Division III. Paige Fernandez '17 set a personal best in the 600m run by over four seconds, running 1:37.88 to finish fifth. The 4x400 team of Fernandez, Kate McCluskey '18, Perri Silverhart '16.5 and Alex Morris '16 crossed the line in 4:05.13, good enough for seventh.

Next on the schedule is the Open New England Championships at Boston University on Feb. 27 and 28. "Opens" takes the top athletes from all NCAA divisions in New England and is always an opportunity to run fast: last year, all of the teams' NCAA qualifying marks were run at this meet.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM	Alex's Assertions
1	SQUASH	John Illig would be very proud.
2	WOMEN'S HOCKEY	First loss of the season is disappointing, but I see some post-season revenge.
3	MEN'S HOCKEY	Finishing the regular season with a win.
4	TRACK	I would marry the new indoor track if I could.
5	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	Bigger things to come for this team next year, but the talent is there.
6	MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING	Can't sugar-coat this championship's results.
7	SPRING BREAK	Is anybody else feeling burned out already?
8	WIND CHILL	Holy mother of god. I know I chose to go here, but please Middlebury, make it stop.

Women's Basketball Drops Tourney Game

By Joe MacDonald

The Middlebury women's basketball team's season ended this weekend with a 80-52 loss to the 16th-ranked Bowdoin College Polar Bears (22-3, 9-1) in the quarterfinals of the NESCAC tournament.

After having lost to the Polar Bears just two weeks prior to this matchup at Pepin Gymnasium on Sunday, Feb. 8 (53-43), this loss came as a repeat for the Panthers. Overall, the team finished placed seventh in the NESCAC, with an 11-14 record that includes a 3-7 slate in-conference. This marks a vast improvement upon the 2013-14 season, where Middlebury finished last in the NESCAC with a 7-17 overall, and 1-9 conference record.

The Panthers relied heavily on a five-woman starting core this season, and three among that group, Sarah Kaufman '18, Sabrina Weeks '18 and Elizabeth Knox '17, will return next season along with the two most experienced bench players, Siobhan O'Sullivan '17 and Krystina Reynolds '17. All of this bodes well for the continued improvement of the program.

Head Coach KJ Krasco praised the two departing seniors who frequented the starting lineup, Rachel Crew '15 and Alexis Coolidge '15, along with Holly Lanchantin '15 and Nora Kelly '15 who also made substantial contributions to the team.

"Our seniors did a great job this season of leading a young group," Krasco said. "We have some very talented and hard-working underclassmen who are

determined to help lead our program to future postseason games."

On Saturday, Feb. 21, the Polar Bears outplayed the Panthers for most of the contest and dominated the game inside the paint, where Bowdoin outscored Middlebury 34-24 and outrebounded the visitors 50-29.

"In the first half this past weekend," Crews reflected, "we gave up way too many offensive boards and allowed them easy looks with second, third and fourth chance opportunities."

Middlebury held leads of 2-0, 4-2 and 6-4 earlier in the game, but a subsequent 8-0 run for Bowdoin resulted in a lead that the Polar Bears refused to relinquish. The Panthers kept the deficit to single digits for the majority of the first half, but over the last 5:02 of the first half, Bowdoin outscored Middlebury 13-3, including a buzzer-beating half court heave from Bowdoin's Sydney Hancock. Going into the break the lead was 44-27 in favor of the Polar Bears.

Knox had a strong first half for Middlebury, netting 10 points on 4-9 shooting and snagging six rebounds. Coolidge tallied six points of her own on 3-4 shooting.

Crews opened the Panthers' scoring in the second half by responding to a Bowdoin two-point jumper with a trey ball to shrink the deficit to 16, but throughout the second half Bowdoin slowly and steadily extended that 16-point lead to as many as 30 with

2:54 left to play. A couple of free throws late from Reynolds made the score 80-52 in favor of the Polar Bears, and ended the scoring.

Kaufman led the Panthers in the second half, dropping seven points on 3-6 shooting, while Knox grabbed four more boards.

On the game, Knox recorded a double-double with 14 points and 10 boards, while Kaufman was the only other Panther to score in double digits, with 11 of her own. Weeks tallied nine points and added four boards to the effort.

Departing Captain Crews feels positive about the program's direction going forward.

"With a new coach coming in and a very young team," Crews said, "[this season] was basically a fresh start for the program... One thing that really stood out this season was our improvement in communication both on and off the court. ... With a new foundation for the program in place, Middlebury will be a major competitor in the NESCAC in the upcoming years."

Coach Krasco is already looking ahead to work on fulfilling Crews' prophecy.

"This year was brand new for everyone involved," Krasco said. "Overall I am pleased with the progress we have made as a team and look forward to taking on new challenges and taking time to reflect on how we can become a better team over the next few months."

Men's Swimming & Diving Unable to Capitalize on Home Meet Advantage with Seventh Overall

By Emily Bustard

Middlebury Swimming and Diving hosted the NESCAC Men's Championship meet last week, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 20-22 at the Middlebury College Natatorium. After a jam-packed weekend of competition, some of the fastest swimmers in the conference had broken pool records in 19 out of the meet's 24 events (most set the last time Middlebury hosted the NESCAC championship in 2008) and shattered four NESCAC conference records.

Williams, the seventh-ranked team in the nation, clinched first place for the 13th year in a row and 14th time in NESCAC history with a score of 2,066.5 points, while Amherst (ranked 16th nationally) and Connecticut College (ranked 21st nationally) took second and third with 1,579 and 1,323 points respectively. The Panthers were able to secure a seventh-place finish with 688 points, outscoring four of the other participating teams.

To start off the meet, Paul Lagasse '16, Stephan Koenigsberger '16, Noel Antonisse '17 and Bryan Cheuk '16 took 1:24.54 to finish the 200 freestyle relay, touching the wall eighth in the final of

the event.

Later that night, Koenigsberger broke his own school record in the final of the 50 breaststroke (25.80), tying for fourth place with Connecticut College's Kirk Czelewicz. The quartet of Alex Smith '18, Koenigsberger, co-Captain Teddy Kuo '15 and Lagasse also finished seventh in the 400 medley relay (3:26.84).

Middlebury faced a disappointing start heading into day two when the team of Justin Cho '17, Koenigsberger, Cheuk and Antonisse got disqualified from the 200 medley relay because of a false start.

However, Mike McGean '17 and Koenigsberger helped redeem the Panthers by setting school records in the 1,000 freestyle and 100 breaststroke, respectively.

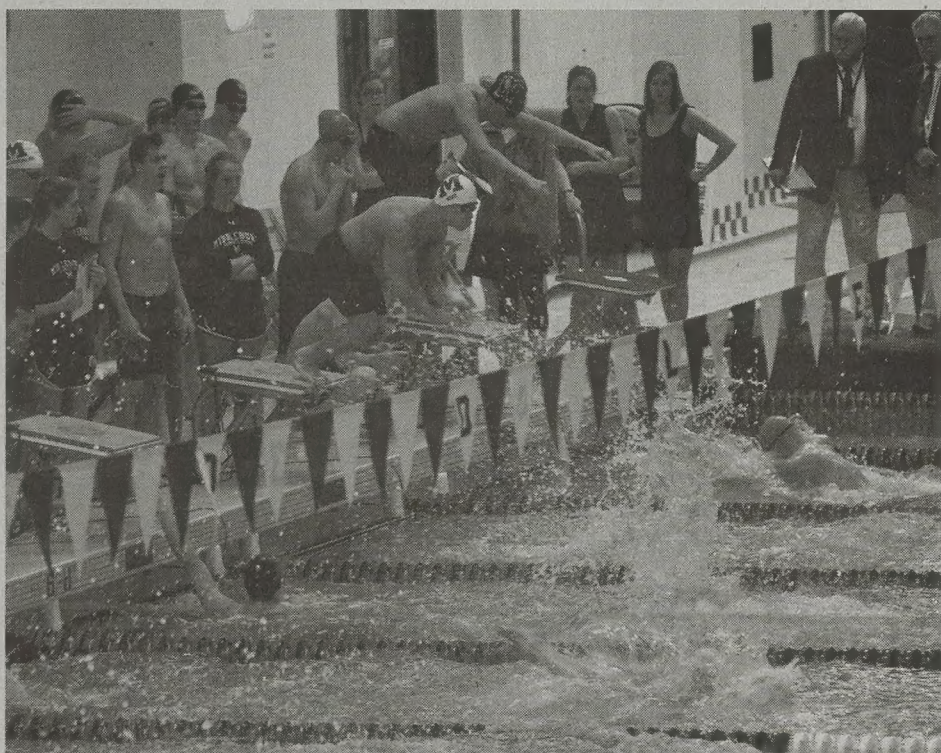
McGean placed fourth in the event final of 1,000 with a time of 9:32.87, breaking the previous record set in 2008 by more than two seconds.

Koenigsberger swam a NCAA 'B' cut time and broke his own school record in the preliminary round of the 100 breaststroke, where he went on to secure third place in the event finals.

To finish off the night, Lagasse, Smith, Connor McCormick '18 and McGean

"The seniors were freshmen when I came in, so I didn't recruit them but they were the types of kids I would've recruited. We connected from the beginning."

HEAD COACH BOB RUEPPEL



ELIJAH VAN VALKENBURG

The Men's Swimming and Diving Team swam to a seventh-place finish at the NESCAC Championships, while members of the Women's team looked on and supported.

swam to a ninth-place finish in a time of 6:59.92 in the 800 freestyle relay.

On the third and final day of the meet, Koenigsberger improved his own school record in the 200 breaststroke with a runner-up finish and NCAA 'B' cut time of 2:02.43, 1.66 seconds faster than the time he recorded at the NESCAC meet last year at Bowdoin.

McGean also continued to perform well, placing third in the 1650 freestyle with another NCAA 'B' cut time of 16:04.58.

Meanwhile, in the deep end of the pool, Dylan Peters '16 held his own throughout the weekend with sixth-place finishes in both the one-meter and three-meter diving competitions.

Though the Panthers faced a shortage of top-three finishes, many swimmers placed within the upper half of the competition. In the 50 freestyle for instance — an event where all top-24 swimmers finished within a margin of 1.24 seconds — Lagasse earned 14th place in the B final (21.63) and Brian Cheuk '16 won 19th in the C final (21.47).

Kuo placed 17th in the C final of the 50 fly, while his co-Captain Lucas Avidan

'15 placed 15th in the B final of the 500 freestyle (4:42.58). Ethan Sivulich '16 touched the wall in 26.87 seconds to get 19th place in the 50 breaststroke, and Antonisse placed 14th in the 50 backstroke (24.70).

"This year the whole month of January was just incredible [because we were able] to do much more speed [and] pace work," said Head Coach Bob Rueppel, who is proud of the men's team's progression this season.

"The seniors were freshmen when I came in," Rueppel said, "so I didn't recruit them but they were the types of kids I would've recruited. We connected from the beginning, and ... I feel like we had four classes that completely bought into our training program."

The end of this meet marks the official end of the 2014-2015 Swimming and Diving season. However, the Panther swimmers whose NCAA 'B' cut times allow them to compete in the NCAA Division III Swimming & Diving National Championships will travel to Woodlands, Texas to swim on March 18-21.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Hamilton	3-1 W	Brendan McGovern '16 stole the show with a hat trick in the win.
WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Plattsburgh St.	4-3 L	The Panthers suffered their first loss of 2015.
SWIMMING & DIVING @ NESCAC	7th/11	Two team records fell as the team heads into a month-long break before Nationals.
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Bowdoin	80-52 L	Women's hoops ends their season at 11-14 after a loss in the NESCAC Quarterfinals.
MEN'S SQUASH vs. Western Ontario	6-3 W	The men's team went 3-0 on the weekend, capturing the Summers Cup.

EDITORS' PICKS



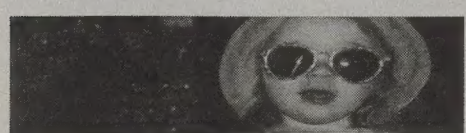
REMO PLUNKETT (30-18, .625)



ALEX MORRIS (46-43, .516)



FRITZ PARKER (70-66, .514)



EMILY BUSTARD (23-23, .500)



JOE MACDONALD (42-51, .451)

Where will skiing finish at this weekend's EISA Championship at St. Lawrence?

FOURTH

Four is a safe bet. Would love to see a top three showing though.

FOURTH

#editorspicksinflation

FOURTH

It'll be harder to sneak into the top three away from the Snow Bowl.

FOURTH

Middlebury's battle with UNH this season has been too close for me to be confident in anything above fourth.

FOURTH

Seems like a popular choice.

Pick one: who will score a goal for women's hockey against Hamilton?

JESSICA YOUNG '18

Hey, I'll go as far as to say she'll notch two against the Continentals.

EMILY FLUKE '15

I'd really love to see these girls get the 'cac win this year.

JESSICA YOUNG '18

Young headlines a studly group of first-years for the Panthers.

EMILY FLUKE '15

She's been killing it all season (plus she has a great name).

EMILY FLUKE '15

She's the team's leading scorer and has already netted three goals against Hamilton this year.

Over/Under: 15.5 goals allowed by men's lacrosse against second-ranked Tufts

UNDER

Panther goalie Will Ernst '17 could stop a whole herd of Jumbos between the pipes.

OVER

(insert some elephant stampede/Jumbo loss pun here)

OVER

This Tufts team has all kinds of firepower. It's not going to be close.

OVER

I'm basing this on the last time we played Tufts when the Panthers let in 24 goals.

UNDER

I remember this game last year, but I feel like Midd will be more prepared this time around.

Who will win Thursday's inter-conference NBA matchup: Cleveland or Golden State?

CLEVELAND

The Moondog is an absolutely fire mascot. Warriors don't stand a chance.

CLEVELAND

Feeling like we need to pick up the editor's pick game. Where are the laughs?!

CAVS

Lebron and co. have been playing well at home, and I think they're going to break through this week.

GOLDEN STATE

The Warriors are first in the East right now while the Cleveland Cavaliers rank fourth.

CLEVELAND

LeBron. So hot right now.



The Middlebury Men's Swimming and Diving Team failed to keep pace with NESCAC competition on home turf, ending the meet with a seventh place finish.

SEE PAGE 19 FOR FULL COVERAGE.

ELIOT VANVALKENBURG

Men's Squash Wins Third Straight Summers Cup

By Will Case

A 6-3 victory over Western Ontario in the "C Division" final on Sunday, Feb. 23, allowed Middlebury's men's squash team to claim the "Summers Cup" for the third year in a row. This marks the fifth time in the last seven seasons the men's team has captured the title. Sunday's win puts a cap on yet another successful winter for the squash program.

Sunday's match pitted the Panthers against defending "B Division" champion Western Ontario University, which entered the match with a record of 27-6. The Panthers swept the fifth through ninth slots while Wyatt French '17 earned Middlebury's lone point in the first through fourth slots in the lineup (11-7, 11-1, 1-11 and 11-7). In the seventh slot, David Cromwell '16 gained a point for the Panthers in four sets (11-6, 7-11, 11-3 and 11-8). Ben Krant '17 scraped out close victories in each of his sets in the eighth slot en route to sweeping his opponent (11-9, 11-5 and 12-10). Will Hanley '15 and Robert Galluccio '15 each rounded out their Middlebury careers with four set victories. Hanley gained his point for Middlebury in the sixth slot despite dropping his first set two to 11. He won the next three 11-4, 11-7 and 11-6.

Other than an 11-8 loss in his second set, senior co-Captain Galluccio soundly defeated his opponent in the ninth slot with a pair of 11-4 victories and an 11-5 victory in the deciding set.

French, Hanley, Cromwell, Krant and Galluccio all made it through the tournament without dropping a match, a collective performance that ensured the teams success throughout the weekend.

"I knew I would be giving back and honoring the legacy that John left behind."

CHARLOTTE DEWEY '15

Even more impressive were the performances put on by Hanley and Cromwell, as each player dropped only one set the entire weekend.

Leading up to Sunday's victory over Western Ontario, the Panthers had no problem taking care of NESCAC rivals Wesleyan and Amherst in the quarter and semifinals. Middlebury drubbed Amherst 8-1 in the quarterfinals on the morning of Friday, Feb. 20, giving the Panthers their second victory this season over the Lord Jeffs. Saturday morning's semifinals match against Wesleyan was the third meeting between the two squads this season. A 6-3 victory allowed the Panthers to complete a season sweep of the Cardinals.

This past weekend's result

allows the squash program to put an exclamation point on a season challenged from the beginning with the death of Coach John Illig. While Illig may no longer be running practice or roaming the squash facility, his message runs deep within the program. John's spirit served as encouragement for members of both the men's and women's teams as they contested the nation's top teams and players throughout the season, players said.

"If I ever found myself getting discouraged I would think about the people I was playing for — myself, my teammates, and most importantly, John," said Charlotte Dewey '15, reflecting on her experience playing squash at Middlebury.

"John always told me that he cared little about whether I won or not — it was things like sportsmanship, attitude, team chemistry and, above all, just enjoying the game of squash which was always most important to him. And if I could carry this into my last and final matches, then I knew I would be giving back and honoring the legacy that John left behind," Dewey said.

Although last weekend's victory at the Summers Cup marks the end of the season's team competition, select individuals from the squad will return to action from Feb. 26 through Mar. 1 at the CSA Individual Championships hosted by Yale.

Women's Hockey Falls to Plattsburgh

By Fritz Parker

The third-ranked Panther women's hockey team had a tough final regular-season matchup on Saturday, Feb. 21, facing off with the second-ranked Cardinals from Plattsburgh State. After falling behind early, Middlebury cut into the Plattsburgh lead in the final two periods but ultimately came up short, falling 4-3 at home.

Prior to the game against Plattsburgh, the Panthers had already clinched the top seed in the upcoming NESCAC tournament, as well as virtually guaranteeing themselves a berth in the NCAA tournament. Despite those facts, the matchup held significance as it featured two of the top teams in division-III hockey as they jockeyed for momentum heading into postseason play.

Plattsburgh wasted little time getting ahead on the scoreboard; Cardinal Katelyn Turk beat Panther goalkeeper Maddie Marsh '15 in just the third minute of play to give her team the advantage. After a body-checking penalty was called on Plattsburgh midway through the period, Katie Mandigo '16 was able to tie the game for the Panthers by converting a feed from Katie Sullivan '15 and captain Kate Moreau '15 for a power-play goal.

With the game tied in the opening minutes of the second period, Plattsburgh regained the lead on a goal from Bridget Balisy. That goal was followed by a string of three opportunities for the Cardinals to pad their lead on the power play, but the Panther penalty-kill unit was up to the task of shutting down all three. After playing much of the period on their own end of the ice, however, the Panther defense faltered as time ran out, allowing a

goal with just six seconds remaining in the period. Plattsburgh went into the second break with a 3-1 lead.

After seven minutes of pitched play to open the third period, Middlebury cut into the lead with a goal from Sullivan, who was assisted by Elizabeth Wulf '18 and Carly Watson '17. As the Panthers were hunting for an equalizer in the middle part of the period, Plattsburgh broke through for a crucial fourth goal in the 13th minutes to extend their lead back to two at 4-2. Another goal from Sullivan — for her third point of the game — was too little too late for Middlebury, and the Panthers fell 4-3.

The loss is the first for the Middlebury team since Nov. 29, and just their third of the season. It was also the first loss of the season for Marsh, who stopped 27 of the 31 shots she faced as she fell to 10-1-2 in starts this season.

Top-seed Middlebury advances to face eighth-seed Hamilton in the quarterfinal round of the NESCAC tournament. The two teams met earlier this season for a weekend doubleheader in late January, with the Panthers taking both matchups. As long as the team continues winning, Middlebury is guaranteed home-ice advantage throughout the tournament.

If they can get through the first two rounds, the Panthers are likely to encounter Amherst in the conference final. The Lord Jeffs are the only NESCAC team that Middlebury did not beat during the regular season, as the one and two seeds tied during both of their games in mid-January.

The puck drops in Kenyon Arena for the Middlebury-Hamilton matchup at 3:00 this Saturday.

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